

April 1985

VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

M A G A Z I N E

WAR'S NEW FACE:

TERRORISM

IT
WILL
CHOKES
FREEDOM

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COVER: Nowhere is the face of terrorism revealed so starkly as in this picture of the United States Embassy annex in Beirut after it was bombed. Several stories in this issue deal with this new face of war that could destroy freedom. The photo is from the State Department.



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- TO INSURE THE NATIONAL SECURITY through maximum military strength
- TO SPEED THE REHABILITATION of the nation's disabled and needy veterans
- TO ASSIST THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans
- TO PROMOTE AMERICANISM through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live

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MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU
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POW/MIAs: We've Waited Too Long



By Billy Ray Cameron
VFW Commander-in-Chief

THIS MONTH MARKS THE 10th anniversary of the capture of Saigon, an occasion that supposedly ended the Vietnam War. But for our men still missing in Southeast Asia, the war is not over yet. Nor has there been an end to the battle being waged for their recovery by the families of these men and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The fate of our missing men could have been easily forgotten were it not for the VFW and the families. The past decade marked a long, sad chapter in the history of the Vietnam War. For nearly eight years, the U.S. government did little to account for the missing men and even less to keep track of the information coming out of Southeast Asia concerning their fate.

The issue would have been forgotten if the VFW had not constantly demanded action since the 1969 National Convention when the VFW launched a campaign for humane treatment and early release of the prisoners and at each one since has demanded a resolution of the men's fate.

In the mid-1970s, the government tried to erase its mistake by declaring all the MIAs "presumed killed in action." The VFW fought back, joining with the National League of Families to demand the government change its policy.

Under this relentless pressure, the government in 1981 did reverse course. At the 84th VFW National Convention,

President Reagan said his Administration "will not rest until their (POW/MIAs') families can rest" and would "take decisive action on every live sighting that can be affirmed." This Administration commitment to a full accounting fulfilled a VFW Priority Goal and proved the VFW had been successful in gaining the government's attention to the POWs' and MIAs' plight.

Getting Hanoi's attention has taken even longer. As long as there was no pressure from either the American public or the government, Hanoi ignored the issue of the 2,500 missing Americans. Now with pressure mounting, Hanoi and other Southeast Asian capitals are beginning to feel the heat. North Vietnam promised last February to accelerate its efforts to search for and turn over the missing men. The VFW intends to make sure Hanoi keeps that promise.

The remains of eight men were received last July. Six sets of remains have been positively identified already and returned to their families. Hanoi is returning the remains of five men early this spring and the remains of possibly 13 others have been recovered from a crashed aircraft in Laos.

We know that Vietnam has more information about men still missing that has not been turned over. The U.S. government has information that the remains of at least 400 U.S. servicemen have been recovered and are being withheld. But Hanoi still is holding out and has rejected demands for their return.

Since adopting a policy of assigning the "highest national priority" to a full accounting of these men and applying its intelligence resources, the government has collected other information that Hanoi has withheld. Nearly 2,800 reports, mostly from Indochinese refugees, have been received concerning POWs or MIAs. Last fall, I was briefed by Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Armitage, who said approximately 650 of these reports contained information of sightings of live prisoners. Half of these reports

were resolved by correlating the reports with Americans who were in Southeast Asia at the time of the sightings but have since returned. Another 109 reports, according to the U.S. government, are known to be false. However, 183 unconfirmed reports of sightings of live prisoners sometime over the past 15 years leave open the possibility that some of our men are still alive.

The final answers to the questions raised by these information reports are in Hanoi, and Hanoi hasn't answered because its Communist leaders haven't felt enough heat. The Vietnamese are stalling. Maybe they think we will trade for more information. Maybe they think we will waste our time arguing among ourselves over tactics. Maybe they think our resolve to recover the POW/MIAs will just fade away. If that is what Southeast Asian governments that have the final answers think about the VFW's resolve they are wrong.

VFW Resolution 423 is unequivocal. We reject any attempt to barter for POW/MIA information and demand that the full weight of public, economic, diplomatic and international pressure be increased and sustained until these regimes recognize there is nothing to gain by stalling.

The VFW urges all organizations and groups to combine their energies and focus their efforts on getting the answers from Hanoi that will resolve the fate of our comrades. This must be done on a government-to-government basis. We will continue to urge that the U.S. government use every possible source of information and insist that it take maximum advantage of every opportunity to complete the full accounting.

The VFW's POW/MIA Subcommittee was recently briefed that Hanoi will release the remains of five more Americans in March (as of this early March writing). Hanoi also asked for additional information exchange meetings and agreed to conduct joint crash site excavations such as was

continued on page 56

VETSGRAM

LEGISLATIVE

House Veterans' Affairs Committee: The following have been elected to serve on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee during the 99th Congress: G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery, chairman (Miss.); John Paul Hammerschmidt, ranking minority member (Ark.); Don Edwards (Calif.), Bob Edgar (Pa.), Sam B. Hall, Jr. (Texas); Douglas Applegate (Ohio), Richard C. Shelby (Ala.), Dan Mica (Fla.), Thomas A. Daschle (S.D.); Wayne Dowdy (Miss.); Lane Evans (Ill.), Marcy Kaptur (Ohio), Alan B. Mollohan (W. Va.), Timothy J. Penny (Minn.); Harley O. Staggers, Jr. (W. Va.), J. Roy Rowland (Ga.), John Bryant (Texas), James J. Florio (N.J.), Kenneth J. Gray (Ill.), Paul E. Kanjorski (Pa.), Tommy F. Robinson (Ark.), Chalmers P. Wylie (Ohio), Elwood Hillis (Ind.), Gerald B. H. Solomon (N.Y.), Bob McEwen (Ohio), Christopher H. Smith (N.J.), Dan Burton (Ind.), Don Sundquist (Tenn.), Michael Bilirakis (Fla.), Nancy Lee Johnson (Conn.), Guy V. Molinari (N.Y.), Thomas J. Ridge (Pa.); William M. Hendon (N.C.) and John G. Rowland (Conn.).

Rep. Montgomery chairs the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, Rep. Edgar the Subcommittee on Hospital and Health Care, Rep. Applegate the Subcommittee on Compensation, Pension and Insurance, Rep. Daschle the Subcommittee on Education, Training and Employment and Rep. Shelby the Subcommittee on Housing and Memorial Affairs.

* * *

Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee: Although Sen. Frank H. Murkowski has been elected the chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, by early March, neither the majority nor the minority side had officially designated members to serve on the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee. These Senators have been acting in that capacity: Strom Thurmond (S.C.), Robert T. Stafford (Vt.), Alan K. Simpson (Wyo.), Arlen Specter (Pa.), Jeremiah Denton (Ala.), Rudy Boschwitz (Minn.), Alan Cranston (Calif.), Spark M. Matsunaga (Hawaii), Dennis DeConcini (Ariz.) and George J. Mitchell (Maine). No replacement as yet has been designated for Jennings Randolph of West Virginia who retired when the 98th Congress adjourned.

* * *

Boland, Veterans' Friend: Attesting to his strong support for veterans, Rep. Edward P. Boland, chairman of the Subcommittee on HUD-Independent Agencies of the House Appropriation Committee, wrote this letter to VA Administrator Harry N. Walters:

"The 1985 HUD-Independent Agencies Appropriation Act (PL 98-371) contained \$8,792,165,000

for the medical care account. The statement of the managers accompanying the conference report on the bill indicated that the 'funding is specifically intended to support 193,941 fulltime equivalent employment (FTEEs).' Although, as I understand it, the 193,941 FTEEs have been allocated, insufficient money is being requested to fund an employment level above 191,849.

"It appears the reduction of 2,092 FTEEs results primarily from the VA's proposal to absorb \$106,695,000 of the funds required to cover increased pay costs. The stated rationale is that the VA now projects that the budgeted workloads can be achieved within an employment level of 191,849. The justification material also indicates this reduced FTEE level will enable the VA to begin the next fiscal year with an employment level consistent with that needed to maintain the 1986 projected workload.

"I am not convinced that the 1985 budgeted workloads can be met with a reduced employment level. Further, reducing medical care staffing when the Veterans Administration is faced with a growing number of elderly veterans is not prudent. If the proposed change in eligibility legislation passes, it may be that the number of staff can be reduced. But reductions in the medical care FTEE should not occur until after a change in eligibility is enacted.

"To maintain the medical care staffing level at 193,941, I will propose that an additional \$80,000,000 be provided for medical care. That amount will be in addition to the \$72,524,000 currently requested for increased pay costs. However, if no action is taken now, I am concerned that medical center directors will allow vital direct patient care staffing to decrease. To avoid the FTEE being reduced prior to receiving the additional funding, the VA should instruct the medical center directors to keep employment at the 193,941 level by reallocation of resources.

"The 1986 medical care budget requests funds to support 192,048 FTEEs. While it is premature to estimate what ultimately will be the 1986 funding and staffing levels, I do not envision that the 1986 appropriation will support fewer than 193,941 FTEEs.

"Reductions in the 1985 staffing in the medical and prosthetic research and medical administration and miscellaneous operating expenses appropriations are also noted. However, medical care is the number one priority and, at this time, only that proposed reduction in staffing is being addressed.

"While cognizant of the deficit situation, I am sure any necessary program restraint can be taken in other areas of the VA."

* * *

FERES DOCTRINE: Sen. James Sasser (Tenn.) has introduced legislation which addresses the VFW current resolution entitled "Feres Doctrine and Armed Forces Personnel". The bill would allow members of the Armed Forces to sue the United States for damages for certain injuries caused by improper medical care rendered during noncombatant situations.

Under current law, military personnel are precluded from initiating law suits for injuries which are considered incident to service. The primary justification for the Feres Doctrine was to preserve the chain-of-command discipline necessary for the military to function effectively. Another justification was that a service member, in filing a tort claim against the government, would not be covered by a uniform standard of law as he would have to rely on the laws of the state in which he was stationed. Finally, it was argued the soldier's relationship to the government is strictly federal. It appears clear the Feres Doctrine is an outdated idea and should not continue. The proposed legislation affords members of the Armed Forces the same standard of justice and equity that exists for other citizens of the United States.

Similar legislation was introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Barney Frank (Mass.).

* * *

SECURITY

ABCs of Budget Crisis: FY 1986 Defense Department budget is \$313.7 billion in authority and \$277.5 billion in outlays. Suggestions were made to freeze budget at last year's levels, but could mean delay of plans and programs in this year's budget, bring U.S. to where it was in 1970s and cost more because production lines would have to shut down for a year or two. Taxpayers would wind up paying tomorrow's higher prices. Proposed defense budget holds at 5.9% growth level. Congress probably will settle for a 3% growth. Defense Department will get only \$15 billion more than last year and \$14 billion would be saved to be applied to current deficit, lowered from \$222 billion to \$208 billion.

Budget breaks down like this: Army, 24%; Navy and Marines, 33%; Air Force, 39%, and Defense Agencies, 5%. From mission standpoint: conventional, \$132.1 billion (all services); support, \$35.6 billion; research and development, \$30.4 billion, and MX Peacekeeper, B-1B bomber and Trident submarine, \$29.9 billion or about 9%. Remainder is

earmarked for intelligence, communications supply and maintenance, \$26.5 billion; Guard and Reserves, \$16.9 billion, and air-sealift, \$8 billion. Personnel costs, like the \$16.8 billion for military retirement, are increased because of a 3% pay hike voted by Congress to begin in July and 25,600 more personnel to man new ships and squadrons. Operations and maintenance comprise 27% of the proposed budget. The \$106.8 billion procurement cost is largest slice but consumes only 38% of the total. It means new tanks, ships and aircraft. Research, Development and Testing is up 20%, an increase of \$7.8 billion. Prior Congresses have set 90% of defense outlays, so only 10% can be cut by present Congress.

* * *

SERVICE

Means Test Revision Proposed: Legislation expected to be introduced by the Administration would eliminate exemption of veterans over 65 from the "inability to defray" requirement of the present law for eligibility for VA medical care. VFW opposed the means test proposed under PL 96-330 and opposes this new concept. Application of a means test and third party insurance recovery would require more people to sort it out—at a time when the VA is cutting back in this very area. VFW views proposal as leading to a radical restructuring of VA medical care. End result would be denial of care to most non-service connected veterans.

* * *

VA Budget of \$27.1 Billion, But Nothing for EVJT Act: Startling news is that no further appropriations will be requested for the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act. Reason: Administration says conditions PL 98-77 was to have corrected have been alleviated; that is, veterans' unemployment. Reality of this is that as of Feb. 12, some 339,321 had applied for training and work under EVJT Act, but only 24,016 had been put to work. BLS says veterans 30 to 44 make up 6.3% of the jobless, approximately 397,000. On top of that 109 Local Veterans' Employment Representatives and 103 Disabled Veterans Outreach Programs Specialists will be eliminated in the 1986 fiscal year. Claim is that fewer veterans are visiting Employment Security Offices. Further, the Job Training Partnership Act funding is being cut \$2 million to \$7.7 million in 1986. The VFW will not tolerate any further cuts in veterans' employment and training programs or people who provide services to veterans.

Recalls Iwo

The article, "Uncommon Valor" brought back a lot of memories of when I was in the Marine Corps. Even after the Marines severed the Japanese defenders in Suribachi Volcano from those at the north end of Iwo Jima, resistance was more savage, rather than decreasing. The ferocity of the battle on the coarse brownish sand had bogged down hundreds of pieces of armored equipment and made it extremely difficult to dig foxholes and keep them open. Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal also paid high tribute to the "indomitable courage" of the Marines and sailors, Navy corpsmen, who were wrestling the heavily fortified and stubbornly defended bastion of Iwo Jima from the Japanese. In the first two weeks of the battle of Iwo, 13,000 Japanese troops were killed. As in other battles in the Pacific, very few of the enemy were captured by Marines. Most died for the emperor.—*Edward Klisiewicz, 4 E. Xavier Ave., Temple, Texas 76501.*

Korea Remembered

A big thanks to Maj. Cal Blake for the fine story on the 23rd Infantry, "Island of Freedom" (February). It brought back a lot of good and bad memories to me, for I too served with

the 23rd Infantry in the Taegu area. My congratulations to all the staff of VFW Magazine for a job well done. Keep up the good work on stories and issues concerning all the veterans. I am a proud vet from Post 3368, Mt. Pleasant, Pa.—*Maurice F Rhodes, RD 2, Box 236, Greensburg, Pa. 15601.*

Veterans Number One

I, like many other veterans, am very upset over the new proposed government spending cuts. Why cut any veterans programs? All those rich politicians up on the Hill forget that if it weren't for the veteran they wouldn't be in the lap of luxury, but do they care about disabled or unemployed veterans? Evidently not. As far as I am concerned, the veteran should come first in any program or benefits. The veteran should never be forgotten.—*Thomas Yount, 8525 W. Raschu, Chicago, Ill. 60656.*

VA Medical Care

Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron's article "Hands Off VA Medical Care" (January) really brought the story home. All of us may not have VA medical care, but those who do deserve it. I am only 14, but I know the little bit the VA pays is going to help

out people considerably. They deserve better. Our country prides itself on fairness, equal opportunity and being free. President Reagan's plan shows how much he appreciates veterans. He does not. Keep your chins up, veterans. The VFW won't let you down.—*Gloria Dorchens, Box 150, Mountain View, Wyo. 82939.*

Stetson Boys Sought

I hope VFW members can help me locate former boys of the Stetson Home for Boys in Barre, Mass., in time to honor all those who were in the service during all wars. In September, 1985, we will dedicate an honor roll for 115 former boys. Many more should be added to this list, if I can find them in time.—*Don Colpitts, 129 Timson St., Lynn, Mass. 01902.*

Books Sought

I am asking assistance of VFW members with two historical projects I am working on, unit histories for the 7th Infantry Division Artillery, 1917 to present and the 182nd Field Artillery of the Michigan National Guard, 1922 to present.—*1st Lt. John Albert Makar, Jr., Michigan ARNG, and 182nd FA Regimental historian, 119 College Place, Apt. 7, Ypsilanti, Mich. 48197.*

NATIONAL HOME

Q - How can a child come to the VFW National Home?

A - A child, sibling group, or single-parent family may be admitted to the National Home if they are in need and if they meet the following eligibility requirements:

- A child whose parent is deceased or totally disabled, and that parent is a member in good standing of the

VFW.

- A child whose parent is deceased or totally disabled and the living or non-disabled parent is a member in good standing of the VFW or the Ladies Auxiliary.

- A child whose parent or grandparent is a member in good standing of the VFW or Ladies Auxiliary and the grandparent(s) have legal custody of the child.

- A child whose parent is a member

in good standing of the VFW or Ladies Auxiliary and the homestudy investigation by National Home staff reveals that the home situation is not conducive to the physical/emotional health of the child.

Westy Thanks VFW

After withdrawing his \$120 million libel suit against CBS following 18 weeks of testimony, Gen. William C. Westmoreland expressed his gratitude to the Veterans of Foreign Wars for its support.

In a letter to Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr., Westmoreland said:

"Events beyond the control of my attorney made it prudent to settle the Westmoreland vs. CBS case out of court. Both parties to the suit supported such action. The odds favored the solution arrived at due to the complexity of the case and on my part because of the heavy burden on the plaintiff imposed by the judge's interpretation of the law.

"The media reaction has been mixed but generally favorable. The bottom line is that the careless and irresponsible practices of CBS have been exposed and admitted by its own in-house actions...

"Your abiding support during those long and traumatic days, fortunately now behind us, is deeply appreciated."

Westmoreland's suit stemmed from a CBS documentary aired in 1982 accusing him of having falsified enemy troop strength in Vietnam to make it appear as if the war was being prosecuted more effectively than was the case. Westmoreland, former commander in Vietnam, Army chief of staff and superintendent of West Point, denied the allegations and sued CBS for libel.

The VFW adopted resolutions at three National Conventions demanding an apology from CBS and Mike Wallace, the documentary's narrator and at the 1984 National Convention urged VFW members to contribute to his legal fund. The retired general had pledged that any monetary settlement in his favor would go to Vietnam veteran charitable causes.

Key issue in the settlement was a statement agreed upon by Westmoreland and CBS attesting to his patriotism and his having done his duty. The general considered this the CBS apology he said he had sought from the outset.

Commenting after the conclusion of

the suit in the Feb. 24 New York Times, Westmoreland questioned whether the courtroom is the proper place for "deciding matters of historical significance or indeed judging the motives of those who played important roles in history..."

"As for the CBS Reports television program 'The Uncounted Enemy: A Vietnam Deception', I know it was biased, misleading—far from objective. But that sometimes occurs in journalism, which properly seeks to expose misdeeds, bad judgments, acts against the public interest..."

"My years at West Point and on the field of battle trained me to cope with many difficult situations. But it was not until my 70th year that I learned that dealing with history in a courtroom is far from satisfactory.

"I hope my efforts will not be in vain—that journalists will continue doing their jobs properly, that the public will be served by free and unfettered reporting and that those who feel they have been wronged will have a forum to hear their complaint. Then, let an informed public make the final decision."

Vietvet Deaths Higher

Vietnam veterans in Massachusetts have a higher death rate than do veterans who did not serve there and non-veterans.

This was the conclusion of a study done by the state's Department of Public Health and the Office of Veterans Services.

Researchers found more deaths among Vietnam veterans were due to auto accidents, suicides, strokes, kidney and connective tissue cancer.

"Elevated risk of death due to motor vehicle accidents and suicide lends support to the hypothesis that Vietnam veterans have had a greater incidence of traumatic death since the end of the conflict than other non-veteran males," the study said.

The study was based on a review of death certificates, but "the results justify intensified efforts to reduce deaths due to stress-related or self-destructive behavior among Vietnam

veterans," the researchers said.

Motivation for the study was that Vietnam veterans "may be at increased risk of dying from violent, preventable causes such as motor vehicle accidents, homicide and suicide."

As to any link with Agent Orange in the cancer-related deaths, the study said the finding of "a statistically highly significant excess of soft tissue sarcoma mortality in Massachusetts Vietnam veterans clearly supports the need to continue investigation for several more years."

Suicides or attempted suicides "occur more frequently in Vietnam veterans who were in combat than among those who were non-combatants," the study says.

The 840 white Vietnam veterans who were studied died between 1972 and 1983 and ranged in age from 20 to over 60. Non-Vietnam veterans in the same age groups totalled 2,515.

Gregory's Address

In response to several inquiries, the address of George Gregory, "The 'Taps' Tapes Man" (November, 1984) is being published. He can be reached at 1470 Circle Drive, Apt. 304, Pontiac, Mich. 48055. He makes available to veterans' organizations tapes of "Taps" and the firing squad recorded at the funeral of John F. Kennedy. He charges only the cost of postage and handling.

Coors Scholarships

Adolph Coors Co., in cooperation with veterans' organizations such as the VFW, has announced a \$500,000 scholarship for children and dependents of American veterans and service personnel killed in action, missing in action or taken prisoner.

"The Coors Veterans' Memorial Scholarship fund is our way of celebrating the true intent of Memorial Day—to honor the American veterans who defended our country and those who gave their lives," said Peter Coors, president of the company sales and marketing division.

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Praising the program, Cooper T. Holt, executive director of the VFW Washington Office, said "it is an outstanding contribution to the futures of the children and dependents of American veterans. These young adults will now have the financial support they need to complete their educations and achieve their goals."

Two veterans' organizations have honored Coors for the company's policy of hiring veterans and in 1983 the company received the U.S. Secretary of Labor's Recognition Award for veteran employment.

Army Chaplains' Study

The Army's chief of chaplains has undertaken a study of the ministry in the Army during the Vietnam War, 1960 to 1975.

Being conducted by Col. Henry F. Ackermann, the research is expected to result in a published work.

Col. Ackermann is seeking accounts of former military personnel regarding effects chaplains had on them and their families during the Vietnam War as well as chaplains' accounts of their ministry.

Questionnaires will be mailed to respondents to measure the Army chaplains' effectiveness. Col. Ackermann may be reached at the Office of the Chief of Chaplains, Department of the Army, Room 1E416, Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20310-2700.

Chester Koch Honored

Feb. 22 was Chester Koch Day in Cleveland, proclaimed by Mayor George V. Voinovich to honor the longtime VFW member and the city's coordinator of patriotic activities.

In the proclamation, Mayor Voinovich said Koch, a member of the VFW National Security and Foreign Affairs

Committee and Past National Historian, served his country in World War I and "has never stopped serving."

Quoting from the late Judge Arthur Day, of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, Mayor Voinovich said, "In many ways Chester is the most remarkable man I have ever known...a man devoted to humanity and especially to the segment known as 'veterandom.'"

Also in connection with Chester Koch Day, the Western Reserve Society of the Sons of the American Revolution presented him with a resolution of "sincere thanks to Chester Koch for his many civic and patriotic contributions." The organization also awarded him its Silver Good Citizenship Medal.

For several years, Koch, 92, has been Cleveland's coordinator of patriotic activities and responsible for organizing a wide variety of civic observances.

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NVS Training Program

By Frederico Juarbe, Jr.

Director, NVS

Last Sept. 10 was a milestone in the history of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, for on that date the long-awaited national training program for VFW Department Service Officers (DSOs) was implemented.

For some time, the organization had recognized the need for a training system for those persons responsible for representing veterans' benefit claims. Such a system would improve their knowledge and skills in the highly sophisticated areas of claims review, development and argumentation.

Formal strides toward this goal were made during a National Veterans Service (NVS) Committee meeting in Philadelphia, Pa., in August, 1981, when a unanimous recommendation was made to the Commander-in-Chief calling for the formation of a special committee to review the status and future of NVS and VFW Department Service Officers.

During the Washington Conference of March, 1982, a report to the NVS Committee and the National Council of Administration contained an assessment of the NVS program, staff and field service and recommendations. A successful fundraising drive was begun and provided the financial support for this training effort.

In October, 1982, following coordination efforts with the VA Office of Planning and Program Evaluation, an outline for a national training program was formulated which contained objectives, methods and identification of VA resources.

The stage was then set for program development. The NVS staff was assigned the responsibility of creating a workable format, consistent with the training objective. After extensive preparation and research, the task was completed. The proposal for the program plan was overwhelmingly endorsed by the NVS Committee in

July, 1984.

The plan presented to the National Council of Administration in August, 1984, was given interim approval. Final council approval came in October, 1984. Thus the hopes and dreams of many were realized.

The training program is divided into four distinct phases. Although the format for each differs, the objective is identical: to enhance technical aptitude to serve more effectively the needs of veterans, their dependents and survivors.

Phase I, entitled Initial Training, consists of several yearly cycles of training in Washington, D.C. Selected DSOs receive intense instruction by VA and NVS personnel. It covers a broad range of veterans' benefit programs.

Phase II, designated as Follow-up Training, gives on-the-job assistance to DSOs who participate in Phase I. The NVS Field Representative responsible for this portion of the training spends at least one week in the office of the respective DSO, advising on such matters as claims review and

principally of technical workshops. Part Two is held in Washington, D.C., during the three and one-half day period immediately after the annual Mid-Winter Conference. Its format is similar to that used in Part One.

The final phase, Continuing Education, permits selected DSOs to enroll at the organization's expense in college level courses covering subjects related to professional development.

Much of the preparation by the NVS staff for the inaugural cycle of Phase I training began in July, 1984. The program began on Sept. 10 when four DSOs representing North Carolina, Maryland, Wisconsin and Nevada, three NVS staff members and one Service Officer from New York entered three weeks of Phase I instruction. Daily classes were held at both the VFW Memorial Building and the Washington VA Regional Office, supplemented by visits to the VA's Board of Veterans Appeals and the Washington VA Medical Center. Written tests intended to measure individual progress were administered at the end of each training week. A wrapup session on the final day gave participants an opportunity to relate their experiences to the NVS director and members of his staff. The overall reaction was favorable.

"This program will have a positive impact on our fellow Service Officers and will increase knowledge, skills and professionalism."

preparation, research technique, library organization, office policy and procedure.

The third phase, a two-part yearly proficiency training program for all DSOs irrespective of experience, is conducted by the NVS staff and members of selected governmental agencies. Part One takes place during a five-day period each fall and consists

Some of the comments presented were:

"We all feel proud and honored to be part of the VFW Service Program and we are privileged to be among the first to participate in the Service Officers Training Program. This training program is a positive step toward providing quality representation for VFW comrades."

"All in all, we have gained much from this experience and feel sure that the VFW Training Program will continue to grow and expand. This program will have a positive impact on our fellow Service Officers and will increase knowledge, skills and professionalism."

Having completed Phase I, the four DSOs returned to their home offices and awaited visits by the NVS Field Representatives as part of the second phase of training. These visits occurred in November and proved worthwhile. During each Field Representative's one-week stay, he assessed office organization and needs, assisted in technical application and understanding and evaluated progress derived from Phase I.

The first Phase III Proficiency Conference was held last Dec. 3-7, in Kansas City, Mo. From all indications, it was a resounding success.

Approximately 90 DSOs, Assistant DSOs and NVS staff members participated in this program. It began Monday morning with opening remarks by VFW Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr., and Executive Director Cooper T. Holt, of the VFW Washington Office. Presentations on veterans' programs were given by key personnel from VA Central Office in Washington. Among the speakers was Dorothy L. Starbuck, chief benefits director, who made her last appearance before a major veterans' organization prior to her retirement on Dec. 21 after 42 years of federal service.

Monday afternoon, VA Administrator Harry N. Walters praised the VFW for its initiative in creating a viable training program and pledged the VA's support. The remainder of the days was devoted to a special program on alcohol and drug abuse by Past Commander-in-Chief Robert Hansen, his wife Susan and several others from Minnesota.

Tuesday began a three-day schedule of technical workshops in which participants were divided into four groups and rotated through each of the eight subjects presented. In certain classes, participants were further divided into groups of three to simulate a VA rating

board and were given questions to be resolved using a team concept. Instructors and students found this method extremely helpful in promoting understanding and retention.

It is clear from those who participated in the Kansas City Conference that benefits derived from structured technical training will prove invaluable. These remarks were typical of the responses of most of the participants:

"To me this was nothing short of a unique and inspirational motivating factor that instilled a hunger in me to learn as much as I can to become a proficient and professional Service Officer for our great Department."

"All the years I have been a member of our great organization, I have never attended any meeting that I got more out of than this one. It was by far the most informative and well organized that I have ever seen."

"The workshops pertaining to disability rating schedule, evidentiary

development, gunshot wounds, special monthly compensation, forensic medicine, medical eligibility and NVS policy and procedure were outstanding and very necessary in our training to more effectively represent the veteran, his widow and dependents before the VA."

"Without a doubt this was the finest and most beneficial Service Officers Conference and training session I have ever attended in the past 13 years."

"Let me congratulate you and your staff for the most outstanding and extensive Training Conference I have ever attended. I am sure that each DSO departed with more knowledge of veterans' benefits."

The second part of Phase III proficiency training conducted March 13-16 in Washington, proved to be as successful as Part One. A similar format was followed. Second cycle of Phase I begins on April 15, concluding May 3.



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Cheatham Retires

Quartermaster Gen. J. A. (Al) Cheatham is closing the ledger on 40 years of dedication to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 23 of them in his office which is similar to that of treasurer of a corporation.

And when he looks at the ledger book, he can survey its pages with pride because the ink is black, thanks in large measure to his sound fiscal management. This year will be the VFW's 23rd consecutive year with a surplus. The total surplus during his terms of office will exceed \$16 million.

Cheatham has held the office of Quartermaster General, an elective VFW post, since 1962, only the second man in that position since World War I.

His predecessor was the late Robert Handy, a World War I veteran who was always called "captain" and who functioned for years in the dual capacity of Adjutant General and Quartermaster General.

It was Capt. Handy who first hired Cheatham, then fresh out of the Army Air Corps.

"I was the first World War II veteran to be hired by the VFW in Kansas City, although some had already been hired in Washington earlier," he recalled.

Cheatham was familiar with Kansas City. His wife, Thelma, is from nearby King City, Mo., and before World War II, a native of New Orleans, he had come to Missouri from his home in Alabama to study in a business school. Then he went to work for an oil company in Kansas and entered the Army Air Corps from Kansas City, Kans. He also had worked for the federal government in Kansas City, but was not interested in returning to it.

"When the employment agency told me to see 'Captain' Handy at the VFW, I had some misgivings about working for a 'captain' because after 2½ years in the service I was tired of the military life."

Cheatham said he was unfamiliar with the VFW when he first came to National Headquarters. (Later he became a charter member of Post 4614 in Kansas City and is a member of Kansas Post 869.)

"Actually, I had never heard of the organization before," he related. "Before World War II, it was not very active in Alabama, and in the part of Italy where I served no efforts were made to sign up any of us as members."

Cheatham returned to the United States with the end of World War II in Europe. He had racked up 21 combat missions and six months' combat flying in B-24s.

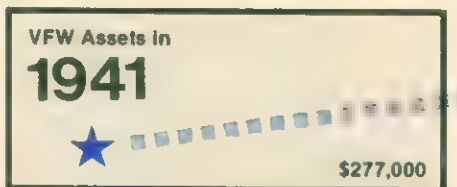
In the U.S., he was given the opportunity to train for B-29s or be discharged from the service.

That option was discovered by a sergeant who was studying his record. He told him he was eligible for separation on the basis of his six months to the day of combat flying.

Cheatham explained that he had always been interested in accounting and had studied it in college, so the chance presented by the VFW fell right in with his natural bent.

The situation of the VFW can be gauged by a quick glance at the membership figures.

Expansion had been rapid during the war. Some 330,000 members were listed as "at-large." They were men who had joined while they were in the service.



Handy assigned Cheatham to the supply department in a sort of holding pattern until he could be transferred to accounting. After the move was made, Cheatham signed every VFW voucher issued since 1947.

First Commander-in-Chief under whom Cheatham served was Joseph Stack in 1945 when the organization had 741,000 members, a figure that more than doubled the following year. In 1941, VFW membership was 213,000, so in five years it had registered a more than seven-fold growth.

Following his joining the staff, several more World War II veterans came

to VFW National Headquarters to help handle the vast amount of work generated by this rapid increase in membership.

At the time, the VFW occupied only a small portion of what was then a privately owned 12-story office building. The VFW had rented space in the building for about 15 years, and the heart of the headquarters operation was the building's 11th floor. Since then and since the VFW's purchase of the building during Stack's 1945-46 leadership year, Cheatham's office has been located, coincidentally, in the same place as it was when he first began in accounting.

With the burgeoning of membership — though it never reached 2 million until last July — the decision was made in 1946 to separate the appointive office of Adjutant General and the elected post of Quartermaster General. Julian Dickenson was appointed Adjutant General, an office he held for 31 years until his death in 1981, and Handy continued as Quartermaster General.

With the retirement of Capt. Handy in 1962, Cheatham was elected Quartermaster General by the National Council of Administration to fill Handy's unexpired term. Delegates to the next National Convention then elected him to the office. In the intervening years, he had opposition only once.

The early and mid-1950s were years of a gradual erosion of VFW membership. The turnabout began 30 years ago and membership has been increasing steadily, almost doubling actually from 1,091,000 in 1957 to 2,000,149 in 1984.

Cheatham has many theories for those losing years.

"For one thing, a lot joined, but there really wasn't much in the way of programs to harness their enthusiasm," he said. "Then so many were more concerned with getting jobs, buying homes and raising families that they lost interest. It took about 12 years to turn it around."

It was at the time of declining membership that the VFW introduced or

expanded the wide range of programs — Youth, Voice of Democracy, Community Activities and a heightened emphasis on Americanism — that have long been the hallmark of the VFW wherever it is organized and have enhanced its image as a service organization.

These programs were added to the already existing work on behalf of needy veterans and their families, the VFW National Home and the long-standing Buddy Poppy program.

Not only has the membership picture changed since then, but so has the VFW itself and its methods of operating.

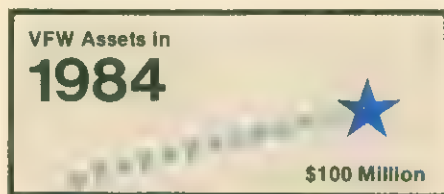
"When I came, accounting was a pen-and-ink affair," he recalled. "Now we have computers. This year we will sell \$30 million worth of insurance and at one time we had nothing to do with insurance. We are selling \$4 million in supplies of various kinds and will sell over \$5 million in Life Memberships this year."

VFW assets now are over \$100 million, compared with \$277,000 in 1941, Cheatham said.

The acquisition of the National

Headquarters Building with 4½ acres of adjacent land in Kansas City and the Washington, D. C., VFW Memorial Building property added substantially to this financial growth since 1946.

And an important aspect of the increased financial stability of the VFW is Cheatham's careful handling of the organization's funds. Government



securities, he has found, have proven to be the wisest and the most profitable investment in recent years.

In addition to the growth since 1941, Cheatham points to the \$1 million in assets when he joined the staff in December, 1945, and the \$5 million in 1962 when he became Quartermaster General, comparing them with the

1947: After the war, Cheatham joined the national staff in Kansas City. One of his early assignments involved modeling the official VFW uniform for the Supply Department catalog.

present \$100 million.

Meanwhile, Cheatham announced his retirement — he is 66, but as an elected official he has no mandatory retirement age — on March 9 to the National Council of Administration at the Mid-Winter Conference.

Cheatham says he thinks he is leaving the VFW financial matters in good hands — a knowledgeable, well trained, dedicated staff under the supervision of a certified public accountant, Herb Irwin, Assistant Quartermaster General. Irwin has 23 years of on-the-job experience in the VFW.

What does he plan to do in retirement?

Cheatham will be found back at National Headquarters pretty much the same as he has been for the past 40 years.

Only from now on, and for as long as he wants to, he will be available as a consultant, watching the books and studying the financial columns for the best ways in which to handle the organization's money — and ultimately the members' — just as he always has. ■

1945: Army Air Corps Lt. J.A. (Al) Cheatham cut a dashing figure while piloting B-24's in Europe during World War II, tallying 21 combat missions.



1985: After 40 years of unflagging service, Quartermaster General Cheatham retired on March 31.

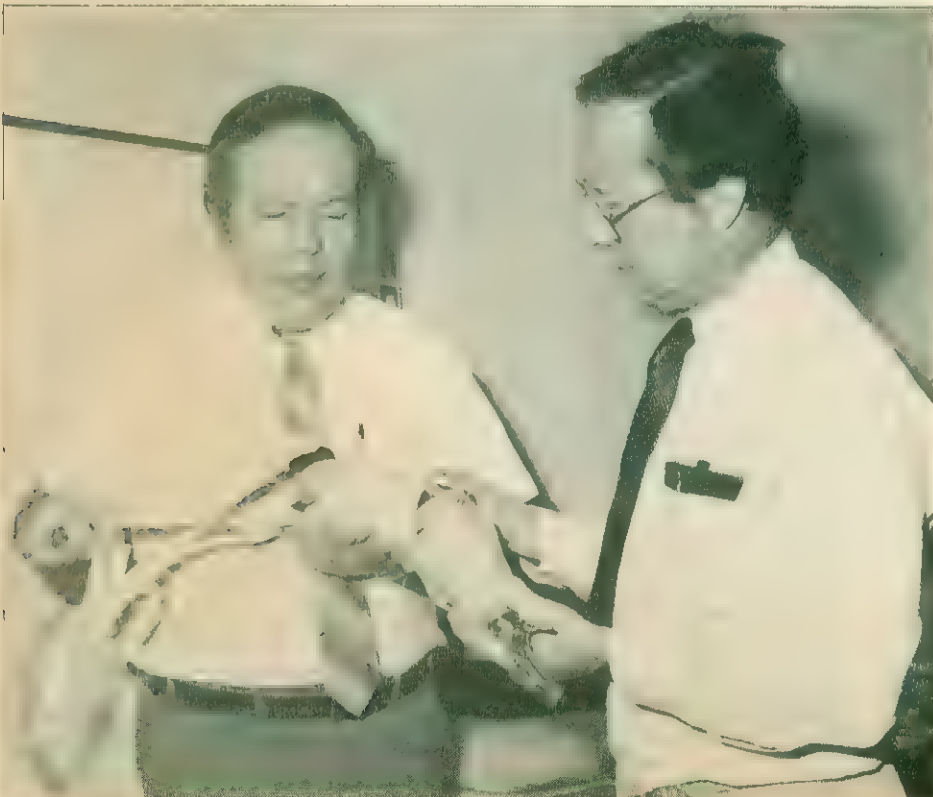


A

By Dorothy Prunty

He Counsels the Courageous

Ralph Skelton and Bill Potter inspect an artificial arm.



SRALPH SKELTON, NOW A LIFE MEMBER OF POST 3905 IN Kaufman, Texas, battled his own injury in the 3rd Field Hospital in Saigon, he lay close to a young soldier who had been hit in the thigh with a bullet from an M-16.

A huge hole marked the exit point of the bullet and chunks of his flesh were missing. Since his wound was unique, several physicians stopped by his bed to discuss his case. They didn't acknowledge he was a person. He was strictly a medical problem. Finally, they walked away, indicating by their dour expressions that the man would never walk again. As Skelton watched, the suffering soldier's face registered deep rage.

"I couldn't believe what I saw. He literally lifted himself out of the bed and walked stiffly, and with great pain, to the latrine. Without words, he told me he considered them a bunch of idiots and he was not only walking now, but would do so later," recalls Skelton. "When I left the hospital he was walking."

The young man's courage deeply affected Ralph Skelton. Later, he found

himself drawn into a career of working with veterans striving to remake their lives despite their disabilities.

Skelton's own disability occurred while he served with the C Co., 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division, in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam. He recalls the afternoon. "We had trapped some Viet Cong up against a river bank. Another unit of the 9th Infantry was across the river deployed as a blocking force. When the VC started running down the river bank, we blocked their escape route using small arms fire."

However, across the way the blocking unit was unaware of the unit's position. Heavy artillery was brought in and blasted nine of Skelton's buddies into eternity and left 10 others wounded. Skelton was blown into a moat. As his buddies were dragging him out, the VC opened fire.

"I felt like someone stepped on my foot. They gave me some morphine. The choppers came in under intense fire, and I was airlifted back to Saigon."

While they were examining his wounds from the artillery rounds, they noticed Skelton had lost the back part of his foot. Both the American artillery and the VC guns had taken their toll of him.

"Some of my friends joked that everyone was mad at me that day."

Not only was Skelton's heel bone half gone, but the Achilles tendon, which makes the foot work, was missing.

"I'm lucky, though," said Skelton. "If I had been a WWI soldier, I would have died from infection. If I'd been in WWII, I probably would have lost both legs because of the length of time required to get care. If I had been a Korean vet, I would have lost one leg. As it was I was wounded at noon and was coming out of the recovery room at six that evening. Our staging hospitals in Saigon and Japan were great for acute care."

It took 11 operations and a year in the hospital before Skelton walked out with a brace and specially made shoes. "They made it possible for me to walk and work all day if necessary."

Fortunately, his experiences with the VA proved positive. Perhaps because he was older than most Viet-

nam veterans, he was offered a job when he first went to the outpatient clinic in Lubbock, Texas, as a prosthetic representative.

"I didn't even know what the word prosthesis meant at that time," Skelton said with a laugh.

During his training, Skelton received his disability compensation and school allowance. The VA paid for his tuition and books. When the emotional problems of his Vietnam experience made recall difficult, a counselor helped him work through the problem. A job waited for him after graduation. After training on the job for a year, he got an assignment as chief, instead of the expected assistant chief.

"At first I saw the VA in a small town, rural setting. Later, I went to a major metropolitan area, and saw the other side of the VA. Most of the veterans were complaining. They couldn't communicate with the VA and, even worse, the employees of the VA couldn't communicate with each other."

Today, Skelton serves as chief of the Prosthetic Treatment Center at the VA Medical Center in Dallas. His job is to provide everything a disabled vet needs. So if you need eye glasses, a hearing aid, an artificial limb, he is the one person you have to see.

"I not only have the responsibility, I have the authority. I have a budget of \$1.5 million to work with. If the veteran meets our eligibility criteria, I can represent the veteran in the bureaucracy. Everybody has responsibility, but I have the authority to do something about it."

Skelton sees all kinds of disabilities in his effort to make the wounds of war bearable to the veteran. His own problems give him rapport with those he serves.

"You have to struggle constantly to be objective. When people are hurting and have emotional problems on top of that, they don't understand their own behavior sometimes," said Skelton.

He finds himself acting as a referee and even a chaplain. The veteran may be in pain. His problem is affecting his job, his homelife and his family can't understand what's going on either.

A

LL I CAN DO IS ASSURE THE PERSON THAT THE APPROPRIATE people will be put to work to fix what can be fixed. It's not knowing this that causes the anxiety."

Since the Dallas VA Medical Center is one of the most active amputee rehabilitation centers, many vets come there seeking a prosthesis. "If a guy comes to our amputee clinic and says he wants to wear a prosthesis, the first thing we ask him is whether he can get out of a wheelchair unassisted. Then we ask if he can walk with crutches and stand unassisted. If they can't do these, they need body conditioning. If they accomplish these skills, they're ready to talk about a prosthesis," he said.

First, they try an off-the-shelf prosthesis. If they can walk only a few steps with this, they're ready for the universal fit with straps. "We can't let them advance until they're physically prepared because of the danger of falling. They must know how to fall."

When they can't gain the skills, they

Skelton finds himself acting as a referee and even a chaplain. The veteran may be in pain, his problem affecting his job, his homelife, and his family can't understand what's going on either.



Ralph Skelton watches as Ralph Justice modifies an orthopedic shoe insert.

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Enclosed is my ☐ check ☐ money order in the amount of \$6. Register my name or the name and number of our VFW Post for representation at the 86th National Convention in Dallas, Texas, Aug 16-23, 1985. Do not enclose your delegate or alternate credentials with this form. (Please type or print name and address.)

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City and State Zip

have to be told they are not candidates for a prosthesis, and this is one of Skelton's toughest jobs.

Skelton sees courage in his work with veterans that transcends that of the battlefield.

Phillip Daniels comes to mind in a long parade of courageous veterans Skelton counseled in his 10 years of work with the VA. Daniels recalls the day in Vietnam which put him in a wheelchair for life.

The helicopter crew was kicking out C rations to the troops below. Suddenly the chopper started spinning. Daniels isn't sure whether the tail rudder was shot off or just came off. He was thrown from the chopper. The 20-foot drop might have been managed, but he landed on the edge of a C ration carton, and the blow snapped his spine. Now he is a paraplegic, paralyzed from the waist down.

But Phillip Daniels isn't licked. Shortly after discharge from the service, he joined with some other disabled Vietnam veterans to form a wheelchair basketball team. His involvement in wheelchair sports was a key factor in his personal rehabilitation. He now knows he can lead an active independent lifestyle. When Daniels is not on the basketball or tennis court, he is hunting, fishing or working on one of the several cars he owns.

"Being paralyzed doesn't necessarily mean you are helpless. It just means you have to go at life a little differently from the way able-bodied folks do," Daniels said.

Skelton works with another veteran who typifies the height of courage. Fred Mettlach remembers St. Patrick's Day, 1967, as a day he doesn't want to remember. Mettlach began the day by making a combat assault from helicopters of the 4th Marine Division into a village near the DMZ. Before the day ended, Fred had been wounded twice, losing his sight from grenade fragments that damaged the optic nerve in one eye and the retina in the other. He was hit also in the neck by a stray bullet that could never be removed. Fred Mettlach, the optimist, says, "I'm lucky I have a little vision left in the top quad-

rant of the left eye and can tell if it is night or day with the right eye." However Mettlach describes his vision, he is legally blind. He can't drive a car, read a menu in a restaurant, and has no depth perception. What is important is what Fred can do. He earned two degrees. His master's in adult blind rehabilitation brought about his employment as a therapist today at the Dallas VA Medical Center. He is responsible for arranging medical care for over 700 blinded veterans living in the area served by the center.

Another man who won't quit is Don Drewery, who lost both legs above the knees from the blast of a mine in Vietnam when he was in the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry, 25th Division. Since his return to the "world," Drewery has been busy. He married his wife, Pam, in May, 1971, and now has three children. He earned a bachelor's degree in physical education (quite a feat for a man with no legs) from North Texas State University in 1976, and now works on his master's. He works for Dallas Parks

and Recreation Department at one of the few centers in the country designed for the handicapped. An organizer of the wheelchair basketball team, he still has a great interest in this. In 1977, he participated in "Outward Bound," a survival course so demanding that most able-bodied persons drop out, but Drewery did it in his wheelchair.

Not all veterans exemplify the same courage. One who lost both legs in Vietnam is nicknamed the "swat man," because about every six months the police SWAT team has to flush him out of an apartment where he's being drunk and disorderly.

"It's heartrending," comments Skelton. "He has a serious disability and has every reason to be frustrated. He's become a role model in reverse. Vets come to me and say, 'I don't want to be like him.'"

"The wars are over, and none of us can change anything. We've got to do the best with what we have," he concludes. ■

VFW Golf Tourney Before Convention

The first VFW Golf Tournament will be held Aug. 15 at the Bear Creek Golf Course in Dallas, Texas, prior to the 86th National Convention.

The 18-hole tournament is expected to be an annual event.

Bear Creek, located at the AMFAC Resort near the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, has two 18-hole championship golf courses.

The \$50 entry fee includes golf fee, golf cart, dinner and drinks following play, prizes and trophies. Entries must be received by July 1. A check or money

order made out to VFW National Golf Tournament must accompany each entry and be mailed to Glen M. Gardner, Adj.-QM, Dept. of Texas, VFW; PO Box 15906, Austin, Texas 78761. A copy of your handicap must accompany your entry.

Ray R. Soden and Ed Williams are co-chairmen.

Reservations for rooms at the AMFAC Hotel adjacent to the golf course for Aug. 14 or 15 are being handled by Gardner. VFW rates are \$55, single, and \$60, double or twin. ■

VFW March of Champions

To Be Held During the 86th VFW National Convention
Dallas, Texas, Aug. 16-23, 1985

Annual Military Parade

All units participating in the field competitions are required to participate in the Annual Military Parade and will march with their sponsoring department or as otherwise assigned. Information as to starting time and location will be available at Contest Headquarters. By participating in the parade you will automatically be eligible to compete for parade prizes as well as those prizes designed for the field competition. Marching and musical units that do not participate in the field competitions but who desire to participate in the Annual Military Parade may do so by requesting a "Parade Only" application.

Best Performing Junior Majorette Drum & Baton Corps

1st	\$500 and parade championship plaque
2nd	300
3rd	100

Best Appearing Drill Team

1st	\$200 and parade championship plaque
2nd	100

Best Appearing VFW Auxiliary Marching Unit

1st	\$200 and parade championship plaque
2nd	100

Best Appearing VFW Marching Unit

1st	\$200 and parade championship plaque
2nd	100

Best Appearing ROTC Uniformed Marching Unit

1st	\$300 and parade championship plaque
2nd	200
3rd	100

Best Performing Senior Majorette Drum & Baton Corps

1st	\$500 and parade championship plaque
2nd	300
3rd	100

Parade Prizes

Best Performing Bands

1st	\$1000 and parade championship plaque
2nd	750
3rd	500
4th	400
5th	300
6th	200
7th	150
8th	100

Best Appearing Senior Men's VFW Color Guard

1st	\$200 and parade championship plaque
2nd	100
3rd	50

Best Appearing Senior Ladies' VFW Auxiliary Color Guard

1st	\$200 and parade championship plaque
2nd	100
3rd	50

Best Appearing Junior Color Guard (Open Competition)

1st	\$200 and parade championship plaque
2nd	100

Junior Girls' Drill Teams

1st	\$500 and championship plaque
2nd	300 and 2nd place plaque
3rd	200 and 3rd place plaque
4th	150
5th	100
6th	50

Junior Girls' Rifle Drill Teams

1st	\$500 and championship plaque
2nd	300 and 2nd place plaque
3rd	200 and 3rd place plaque
4th	100
5th	50

Junior Boys' Rifle Drill Teams

1st	\$500 and championship plaque
2nd	300 and 2nd place plaque
3rd	200 and 3rd place plaque
4th	100
5th	50

Junior Boys' ROTC Rifle Drill Teams

1st	\$500 and championship plaque
2nd	300 and 2nd place plaque
3rd	200 and 3rd place plaque
4th	100
5th	50

Field Competition

Junior Bands Open Competition

1.	\$1,250 and championship plaque
2.	1,000 and 2nd place plaque
3.	750 and 3rd place plaque
4.	600
5.	400

Junior Bands Class "A"

1.	\$1,000 and championship plaque
2.	750 and 2nd place plaque
3.	500 and 3rd place plaque
4.	400
5.	200

Senior Men's Color Guard

1st	\$500 and championship plaque and gold medals
2nd	150 and silver medals
3rd	75 and bronze medals
4th	50

Junior Color Guards

1st	\$500 and championship plaque and gold medals
2nd	300 and silver medals
3rd	200 and bronze medals
4th	150
5th	100
6th	50

Senior Ladies' Color Guard

1st	\$250 and championship plaque and gold medals
2nd	150 and silver medals
3rd	75 and bronze medals
4th	50

Inquiries To:

J Robert Brady, Chairman
319 Tadmor Road

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15237

Phone: (412) 366-4115 — Residence

Proposed prize list will be governed by the number of entries which will be provided you in the contest rules.

This soldier is silhouetted against the sky on Ie Shima near Okinawa. War correspondent Ernie Pyle was among the many killed there. (Army Photo)



By Mark Henn

FORTY YEARS AGO, IN THE PRE-DAWN HOURS OF APRIL 1, 1945, AN American armada approached Okinawa as the Pacific war entered its final act. This invasion force, the U.S. 10th Army commanded by Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, was made up of three Marine divisions and four Army divisions, containing more than 250,000 men.

Four thousand miles of ocean, and more than three years of war separated Okinawa from Pearl Harbor, and now the mighty arm of the American military colossus threw a dark shadow over Japan's home islands.

Precisely at 8:30 a.m., the eight-mile long line of landing craft swept waves of men onto Okinawa's western beaches. The wind was light and the surf on the beach negligible as they stormed out of the amtracs and onto the beaches. Except for an occasional mortar shell and sniper bullet, they were met only by an eerie quiet. The Marines rollicked forward like picnickers searching for the choicest spot for lunch. At casualty collection points, surgeons sat around smoking, wondering why the dead and wounded had not yet come pouring in.

Above the beach the troops advanced rapidly. The enemy was strangely absent, and the countryside ahead ominously silent as they moved forward. By the end of the first day,

Okinawa — The Last Battle

only 28 men had been killed and 27 reported missing. Some suspected the lack of resistance was a clever Japanese trick, that at nightfall they would come upon them in a screaming banzai charge as in the early days of the war. The night, however, passed quietly.

Advances on April 2 and 3 were mainly foot-sore marches with an occasional interruption to root out isolated enemy positions. Wherever the Japanese were, they were not in the middle of the island as the 1st Marine Division easily swept through here. The GIs soon enough began running into enemy squads, then platoons and then companies of Japanese soldiers. Sharp bat-

tles for several outposts ran up casualties. By the end of day four, it was clear to the Americans that the enemy army was concentrated in the southern third of the island.

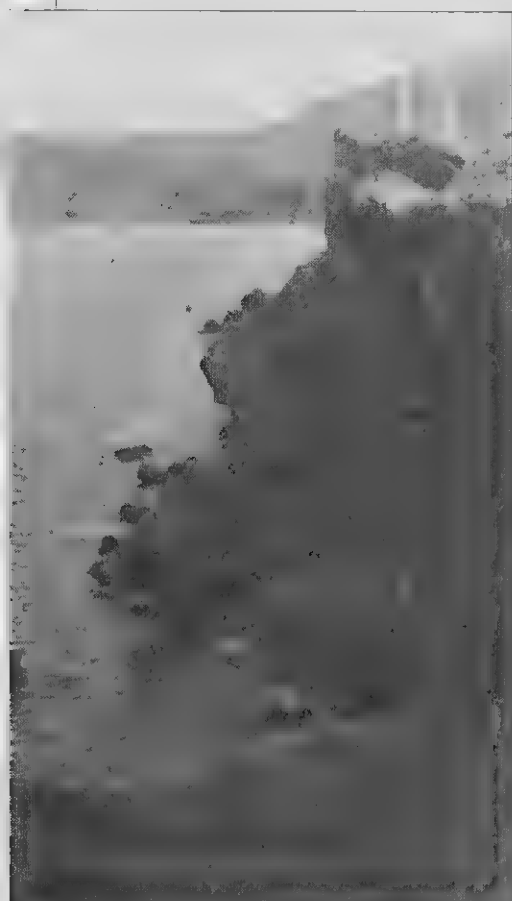
The 10th Army divisions had run smack up against what would become known as the Naha-Shuri Defense Line. Here, in a thick band of ridgetop strongholds, more than 110,000 Japanese infantrymen were deeply dug-in. These crack troops of the 32nd Army were commanded by Lt. Gen. Mitzuru Ushijima, whose HQ was in ancient Shuri Castle, a medieval stone fortress built by the native Okinawans centuries before to repel Chinese invaders. The Japanese had honeycombed the ridges surrounding the castle with tunnels and passageways, through which Ushijima could easily reinforce his front lines.

All along this line the Americans stopped short and dug in. In the next few days they would send out patrols probing the enemy defense for weak points, but nowhere was the line vulnerable.

The Japanese hoped to gain final victory over the Americans on Okinawa through coordinated air, sea and ground counterattacks. Use of kami-



A dynamite charge blasts the Japanese in a cave on Okinawa. (Army Photo)



Suicide Cliff on the southeastern tip of Okinawa got its name from the two Japanese generals and hundreds of troops who leaped to their death here. (Air Force Photo)

kaze suicide planes was vital. The Navy suffered its heaviest casualties since Pearl Harbor in the waters off Okinawa, most due to the kamikazes. Over 4,900 bluejackets would be killed or drowned and another 3,824 wounded or injured before it was all over.

On April 6, the Japanese air reaction arrived with a fierce attack of 400 fighters, bombers, and kamikazes. Some 223 kamikazes entered the Okinawa area with as much fighter support. As Zeros battled white-starred American fighters, the doomed kamikaze pilots raced on toward the American fleet with their explosive-laden planes.

One lone Zero crashed the side of the majestic new battleship Missouri, though doing little more damage than to scorch the paint.

By the end of the terrifying day, 16 destroyer-type ships had been sunk, and 368 other naval vessels, ranging in size from battleships and carriers down to small landing craft, had been damaged.

Just at dawn the next morning, American flyers patrolling the seas south of Japan received an eye-popping

sight — the 45,000-ton Yamato and nine escort cruisers cutting their way toward Okinawa. Four-hundred carrier planes from Adm. Marc A. Mitscher's Task Force 58 immediately got underway. Upon arriving, swarms of Hellcats, Corsairs, and Avengers pressed through heavy ack-ack to drive their bombs and torpedos into the "big boy." For 30 minutes, the battle raged in the East China Sea.

Gunners on the Yamato threw everything they had at the American fighters as they bore straight ahead for the ship. At about 1,500 yards out, torpedo planes released their fish. The torpedos splashed, hesitated a moment, and sped toward the still turning Yamato. Three hit the port side amid-ship. It took three more hits on the port side and began to list unevenly to port. The airmen continued to pick on Yamato's wounded side, increasing the list and causing men and guns to slide into the sea. In minutes, the Yamato was no more and its mission to wreak havoc on the American fleet had ended 250 miles north of the Okinawa beachhead.

With air and sea battles raging around Okinawa, the 10th Army hammered relentlessly against the Shuri Line, but by April 22, all further advance had been stopped. The American soldiers on the line knew that breaking through would be slow and costly, and that every Japanese soldier would fight to the death, buying time for the homeland.

The fighting in the third week of April was marked by heavy and incessant attacks against cave, tunnel and dug-in positions. Each small action was a desperate encounter in close combat, often ending in hand-to-hand fighting using grenades, rifle butts, bayonets, and knives. Armored flame-throwers took on centers of resistance, as supporting infantrymen eliminated the positions by creeping up and flinging satchel charges of TNT into the midst of the enemy. This rugged strategy, called blowtorch and corkscrew, was a slow and hazardous job against an enemy who did not give any ground that he did not first die trying to hold.

A second big Japanese air offensive on April 11 threw all available planes at the American fleet. U.S. Navy gunners and fighters intercepted the

onslaught of kamikazes as they converged on Okinawa. One kamikaze struck the destroyer Kidd in her forward fire room, killing 38 and wounding 55. Then the aircraft carrier Franklin was hit off Kyushu by 550-pound armour-piercing bombs. The Franklin's fuel, aircraft and ammunition went up in flames. More than a thousand of her crew perished. Still, the big ship managed to limp back to New York for repairs.

The final days reverted to senseless slaughter and suicide, the cream of the 32nd Army rotting in the Shuri Line, the survivors now determined to take as many Americans as possible with them in honorable death.

The Japanese 6th Air Army offered its own version of suicide warfare. Several twin-engine, Sally-type medium bombers were stripped of armament, loaded with troops and explosives, and fueled for a one-way mission to destroy American planes on Okinawa's two American held airstrips. Once over Okinawa, the bombers ran the gauntlet of American firepower. The Sallys were all splashed except one, which made it to Yamitan field's coral strips. Skidding to a stop, its 12-man team piled from it. The Japanese huddled for a second, gathering weapons and explosives, then fanned out among hundreds of American planes. Each man hurled grenades and satchel charges into and under planes parked on the runway. For a few seconds, the American ground crews were stunned at the arrival of the Japanese, then cooks, mechanics and flyers grabbed the nearest weapons and dashed after

them. A pitched battle raged for nearly two hours until all of the enemy were killed. The attackers managed to burn seven planes and to damage 20 more.

The Navy struck back savagely at the enemy. Mitscher's Task Force 58 steamed into Japanese waters, hit hard at Kyushu and destroyed over 300 enemy planes in four days. B-29s repeatedly hammered the kamikaze airfields on Kyushu. The enemy used his entire force of fighters to try and stop the Superfortresses, though few of the Zeros had the speed at high altitudes or firepower to stop a B-29. The Navy was being hurt by the kamikazes and Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz wanted them out of the picture for good.

On Okinawa, the ground battle continued to drain men and resources on both sides of the Shuri Line. By the last week of April, Buckner had to relieve the exhausted Army divisions who had suffered terrible casualties in a month of almost constant fighting. Fortunately for Buckner, the rapid conquest of northern Okinawa freed up the 1st and 6th Marine Divisions for use on the line. The combat-weary 27th and 96th Army Divisions were pulled from the line for rest and replacements, while the 7th Division remained on line until relieved by the 96th after its 10-day rest. By April 30, the changes were complete. The Marines held the east half of the front and the Army the west. With his forces now reorganized, Buckner was ready to renew the offen-



sive in earnest. The 77th Division had relieved the 96th after taking Ie Shima.

Constantly pounded from the waters around him, from the air above him, and the ground in front of him, the Japanese defender hung on with dogged determination. Gen. Lemuel C. Shepard, commander of the 6th Marine Division, urged his men to take advantage of cover and camouflage, using maneuver in outflanking the enemy. The Marines took the long fought-over ruins of Naha and then advanced on the Japanese stronghold of Sugar Loaf Hill.

Sugar Loaf Hill controlled the western approach to Shuri Castle and denied use of Naha and its harbor to the Americans. The Marines charged in force until 50 of them reached the top of the hill. Ordered to hold the position all night, 46 of them were dead or wounded from Japanese hand grenades by dawn. Then, into the foxhole where the

Said to have been hit by the war's last torpedo at Okinawa, the Pennsylvania is salvaged. Later she became a target ship at Bikini.
(National Archives)

remaining four huddled, the enemy dropped a white phosphorus shell, burning three men to death. The last survivor crawled down to an aid station. Again and again, the Marines would storm the hill only to be blown off the crest before they could move down the far side.

The fight was fast brutalizing both adversaries. Twice the Japanese Army went on the offensive, both times in conjunction with the savage enemy air strikes, but superior American firepower ripped up the attacks. On the offensive, outside their caves and tunnels, the Japanese lost every advantage. Heavy casualties in the ill-advised offensives and from constant American attack had put the 32nd Army on the defensive for good.

Along the center of the line, the 1st Marine Division and the 77th Army Division made thrusts against the medieval rock fort of Shuri, only to be caught each time in a raging crossfire of Japanese mortars and machine guns. The warships off shore rained tons of metal onto its 40-foot high walls. Still the Japanese refused to budge. Battling fanatical resistance, the Americans had finally penetrated the inner ring of Shuri defenses and it began to look as if the wall might be cracking.

Then, in the last week of May, rains came down harder every day, burying trails and roads in a deep gooey mire. Water dripped into every meal and

continued on page 28

These men on Okinawa pause for prayer before going into battle. (Army Photo)



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OKINAWA

continued from page 27

spoiled every cigarette as the men sat in foxholes filling with water. Buckner's advance had come to a halt, his army immobilized by the rain and mud.

Sitting in the depths of Shuri Castle, Ushijima, seeing his opportunity to escape, acted on it. On May 26, the Japanese began withdrawing from the Shuri Line to re-establish themselves in the hills at the southern tip of Okinawa. The pursuing Americans were stalled by the weather. The enemy had slipped away.

The fighting dragged on into June with Army and Marine units converging and encircling the Japanese pocket. They killed a thousand Japanese a day, steadily rolling back the enemy lines. The final days of the battle reverted to senseless slaughter and suicide. The cream of the 32nd Army was rotting in the Shuri Line and the survivors now were determined to take as many Americans as possible with them in honorable death. On Okinawa fewer than 300 prisoners had been taken by

June 1. Not until the Americans crowded them almost to the water's edge did the Japanese begin to surrender in large numbers. The great majority chose death over surrender. Cornered or injured, many blew themselves to pieces with grenades. After scoffing at Buckner's request for surrender, Ushijima preferred hari-kari.

Buckner was one of the last casualties of the Okinawa campaign, the highest ranking American officer ever killed in combat. A large fragment of coral rock, blasted off by a Japanese mortar round, struck him squarely in the chest. He died 10 minutes later.

Mopping up continued until July 2, when Gen. Joseph W. Stillwell, the new 10th Army commander, decreed the battle for Okinawa was officially closed. The cost to the Americans was over about 50,000 men killed or wounded, to the Japanese, nearly 110,000 dead.

With the killing finally over, Okinawa was turned into a massive staging point for a half-million Americans preparing to invade Japan. ■

About the Author

The writer specializes in military-historical subjects.

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TERRORISM COMMUNISM

an Act of War



By Kenneth A. Steadman



he terrorists' truck that devastated the Marine Corps compound at Beirut airport in October, 1983, carried out an act of political murder in a region overwhelmed by violence and overrun by fanatics.

In many ways, the Beirut attack

was as catastrophic as the bullet of terrorist Gavrilo Princip that killed Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand in June, 1914. The goal of that assassination was the breakup of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. That event occurred four years later, but along the

way the bullet that started the World War I, introduced Communism to Russia and laid the foundation for World War II. That terrorist act changed history, and the modern world still lives with the consequences.

The Beirut truck bomb also changed



things. It focused attention on the crisis in Lebanon and ultimately changed U.S. foreign policy by forcing the withdrawal of U.S. Marines from the region and weakened this country's influence there. The consequences still haunt us. They kindled the current public debate between Secretary of State George Shultz and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger on the use of military force.

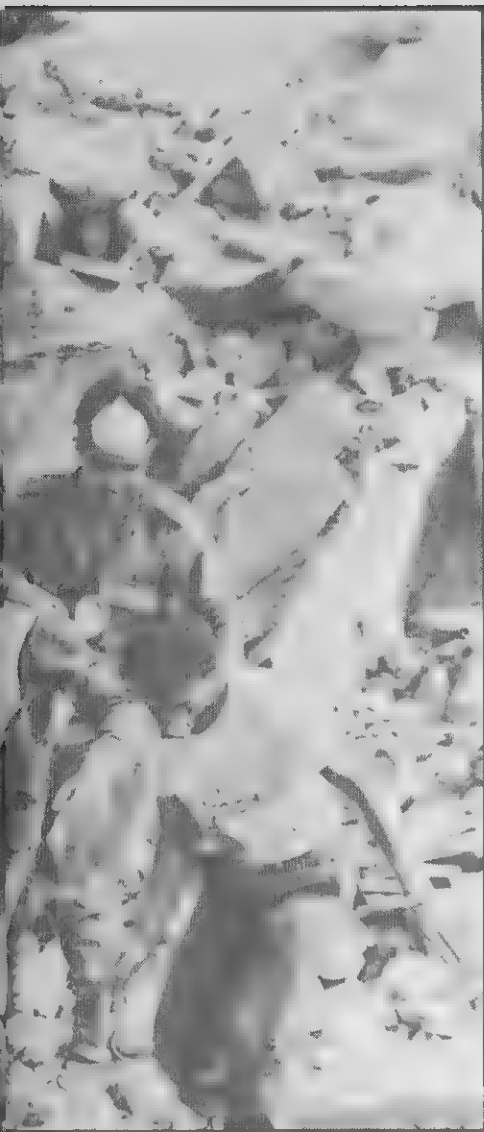
The fact is terrorists and terrorism are having a major impact on the world. Four major world leaders have been targets of assassins. Former Premier Aldo Moro, of Italy, and Indira Gandhi, of India, were killed, but Pope John Paul II survived and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher escaped injury when a terrorist bomb exploded in the Brighton hotel where she was staying. Scores of economic and military leaders have been the targets of bombings and kidnappings and nearly 4,000 persons have been killed. Most incidents occur in the

Mideast and Western Europe. Germany and Italy are the most frequent European targets. In the United States, the FBI reported only 13 terrorist acts in 1984, but officials have their fingers crossed when issuing their statistics.



Although terrorism is not a new phenomenon, it has adopted some new characteristics. Today, at least 20 independent terrorist groups are loosely linked together in a terrorist network. Italy's Red Brigades, West Germany's Red Army Faction and the Mideast's Islamic Jihad are among those tied into this terrorist network that smuggles hit men into foreign countries, provides safe houses, money, weapons and explosives and collects intelligence on potential targets. Network members sometimes conduct violent acts on behalf of other groups. An example is the Japanese Red Army attack on Israel's Lod airport in 1972 for the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Another characteristic of modern terrorism is the sponsorship and support it has received from some Communist and radical nations. It is not a statistical mistake that terrorist acts have not occurred behind the Iron Curtain. In these police states, both the population and possible terrorist weapons are tightly controlled. According to Claire Sterling, author of the book "The Terrorist Network," the Soviet Union and Communist bloc countries are benefactors and beneficiaries of terrorists. Terrorist training camps have been set up by the Soviet intelligence agencies in East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Cuba, South Yemen and North Korea. South Yemen alone is reported to have trained some 2,500 Palestinian terrorists. Libya's Col. Muammar Al-Qadhafi welcomes terrorists to his country and provides them money, training and transportation. Claire Sterling says terrorists are not controlled by the Soviets or Libyans, but these sponsoring states



Rescue workers bring Marine's body from rubble.

benefit from the disruption of Western societies and government policies.

The terrorists use bombings, assassinations, kidnappings and hijackings to focus sharply and quickly public and government attention to their goals and to force governments, through public fear and pressure, to change policies. The victim of terrorism is seldom the terrorist's target. Modern terrorist groups generally have some political goal or target which has no connection to the victim of terrorism. The terrorist's act is designed to use helpless victims to attract attention to their political goal. The old anarchists called this the "propaganda of the deed." This distinguishes the terrorist from the common criminal.

Today's terrorist plays to the media, using headlines to capture attention and instill fear in the public. Since the public is the potential victim of the next act of random violence, governments must respond. Until recently, governments have had only three general options in responding:

- Identify, find, capture and prosecute the terrorists.
- Protect the public.
- Give in to the terrorists' goal.

Since 1968, many governments have been developing a fourth method. With a combination of better intelligence, improved security measures and specially trained counter-terrorist

forces, governments are trying to stop terrorists and protect the public. After the kidnapping of Aldo Moro in 1978, the intelligence and security agencies of Western European nations and the United States began to coordinate closely their efforts. Physical security at public buildings, public assemblies and transportation terminals has increased. Many governments formed special military units to combat terrorists. Britain's Special Air Service, West Germany's GSG9 and France's Gendarmarie Intervention Group are among the best.

The United States was initially slow in developing counter-terrorist forces. But spurred on by several Army officers—Chief of Staff Gen. E.C. Meyer, Gen. Robert C. Kingston and Col. Charlie Beckwith—the U.S. government finally established a counter-terrorist force at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Composed of highly trained and specially screened Armed Forces personnel, Delta Force serves as the nucleus for a Joint Special Operation Command to combat international terrorists. Delta operates in other countries with the consent of the foreign government and in conjunction with the local counter-terrorist forces. Within the United States, the Department of Justice has overall responsibility for terrorism. Employment of Delta or any other military force in law enforcement is restricted by the Posse Comitatus Act. When federal laws are violated, however, the attorney general can request and the President can order military assistance for a counter-terrorist operation.

When Delta swings into action, special equipment and techniques are often used, but, a 12-gauge shotgun is still the best way of getting through a door. Information on the terrorists, their hostages, if any, and the location is rapidly assembled. The location is isolated and the operation is conducted with surprise and speed. How, when and where Delta Force has been used is highly classified. Newspaper accounts indicate that Delta was involved in rescuing Gen. James L. Dozier and in the Grenada rescue operation, but official sources will not confirm this.

The Beirut bombing provided several points that counter-terrorist specialists have been saying for some time. Those points were reinforced in the Long Commission Report on the

Old Glory still waves at Marine operations center.



bombing:

"The attack was tantamount to an act of war using the medium of terrorism. Terrorist warfare, sponsored by sovereign states or organized political entities to achieve political objectives, is a threat to the United States and is increasing at an alarming rate.

"The Oct. 23 catastrophe underscores the fact that terrorist warfare can have a significant political impact and demonstrates that the United States, and specifically the Department of Defense, is inadequately prepared to deal with this threat. Much needs to be done on an urgent basis, to prepare U.S. military forces to defend against and counter terrorist warfare."

Not only was the U.S. military unprepared for the attack at Beirut airport, but the nation must now confront the fact that terrorism has become a new form of warfare. State-sponsored networks of terrorists now represent a serious threat to the United States and its citizens at home and its Armed Forces stationed overseas. Unless Americans are prepared to defeat terrorism, the consequences could be as severe as those produced by Princip's bullet in 1914.

About the author:

Kenneth A. Steadman is VFW Director of National Security and Foreign Affairs. ■

VFW Member Terrorist Victim

A Marine Corps veteran of Vietnam and member of Post 335, Cranford, N.J., was killed on Dec. 21, 1981, when he routinely stopped a motorist for a traffic violation.

Trooper Philip Lamonaco



Two men got out of the car and shot State Trooper Philip Lamonaco eight times. He left a widow and three small children.

Being sought in his death is Thomas William Manning. Richard Charles Williams and five other members of the terrorist United Freedom Front gang were arrested in Ohio, while Manning and his wife escaped.

New Jersey State Police said the investigation of the trooper's death "has revealed a cell of five men and four women who have abandoned any pretense of working toward social change and have engaged in common criminal activity."

Manning's wife is being sought for a bank holdup in Augusta, Maine, and she and the others are suspects in numerous East Coast bombings and other bank robberies, State Police said.

Manning, 38, was born in Boston, is 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighs 150, has a fair complexion, brown hair and hazel eyes. Mrs. Manning, 28, was born in Sanford, Maine. She is 5 feet 6 inches tall, weighs 125 pounds and has brown hair. They may be accompanied by their children, Jeremy, 11; Tamara, 5, and Jonathan, 4.

A \$100,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Manning. ■

Terrorism's 'New Breed'

By James K. Anderson

Use of modern technology, especially television for its dramatic effect, and ruthless and often ideologically motivated killers, lots of money combined with inferred governmental sanction are some of the characteristics of contemporary terrorism.

Add a dollop of vintage Marxist sloganeering as solutions for endemic poverty to the careful selection of prominent persons to be killed or kidnapped, bank robberies and random bombings and you have a recipe for terrorism's "new breed."

The new breed seem inspired by the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, while their counterparts of an earlier era usually took their cue from the American Revolution, George Washington, not V.I. Lenin.

Their weapons and sometimes sponsorship may be new, but their deeds are an old story in many parts of the world where terror and conspiracies are a virtual way of life, an outgrowth of years of perceived oppression and a people's yearnings for freedom.

For example, the assassination of the Austrian archduke cited by Kenneth A. Steadman occurred in Sarajevo, a Moslem town in Serbian-peopled Bosnia, then ruled by Austria-Hungary. It was carried out by a gunman imbued with a desire to unite Bosnia with independent Serbia. Union or Death and National Defense organizations active in Bosnia had been agitating for a "greater Serbia." Besides, the Austrian's June 28, 1914, visit stupidly coincided with Vidovdan, St. Vitus Day, when the Serbs tradi-

tionally mourn their defeat by the Turks in 1389

All the Balkan peoples, ruled by the Turks for some 500 years, had grown up in an atmosphere of rebellion against any foreign domination that was a natural for nurturing ancient grudges.

Significantly, too, the very word "assassin" is derived from "hashish." The expression originated 800 years ago when Hasan ibn al-Sabbah, a Shiite Moslem called the Old Man of the Mountain, organized killers to combat enemies of his Ismaili sect while they were high on the drug. His "Assassin" followers became a cult.

After World War I, an outgrowth of the archduke's murder; the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes were united in the single state that became Yugo-

slavia.

Bulgarophone Macedonians wanted their own state carved from portions of southeastern Yugoslavia and Greek Macedonia. So the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization (IMRO) began guerrilla warfare against the Serbs and Greeks just as it had for years against the Turks. IMRO's job was made easier by the 200,000 homeless Macedonian refugees in Bulgaria.

So serious did the violence of these "comitadjis" (cells) become in the 1920s and 1930s that Greece, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia came close to war. A Yugoslav general was killed, but IMRO rivalries became so violent—almost a civil war—inside Bulgaria that the organization was suppressed shortly before WWII.

IMRO's terrorists and those of the anti-Serb Croatian Ustashi murdered Yugoslavia's royal dictator, King Alexander, whom they all hated. The deed was carried out in Marseilles in October, 1934, after the king arrived for a visit. Also killed was French Foreign Minister Louis Barthou. The assassin, Velicko Kerin, slain on the spot, was regarded as a hero. So much so that even in far off Detroit his picture hung for years in the hall of a Macedonian Bulgarian Orthodox church.

Another nationalist group that fought for its nation's freedom was the Armenian Revolutionary Federation—the Dashnaks—organized in 1889 to resist Turkish and Kurdish massacres. Ultimate hope, briefly realized, was creation of a single independent Armenian state from the portions ruled by Turkey and Russia. To wipe out this resistance on the eastern flank, the Turks, at their German ally's suggestion, dispersed and massacred an estimated 1.5 million Armenians.

Talaat Pasha, minister of the interior who ordered the atrocities, became the target of Armenian vengeance after the war. Soghomon Telirian volunteered for the job of executioner. In Berlin, he watched Talaat's movements closely. Then one day, he tapped him on the shoulder. When Talaat turned around, Telirian asked him if he was Talaat Pasha. When the Turk admitted it, Telirian pulled out his pistol and shot him. A German court acquitted him.

The Soviet Union has had to cope with terrorist activity at home, though on a minuscule scale and not since WWII. For more than 20 years, right

up to WWII's end, the Basmachi in Turkestan carried on an anti-Communist guerrilla war.

Even if the Russians have to cope but little with terrorism, they have been responsible for some of it abroad since the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917.

One of the most visible targets has been the anti-Soviet Ukrainian nationalist movement that has been struggling for more than six decades for a free Ukraine.

Assassination of leaders of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) was common. Most prominent was Col. Eugene Konovalets, assassinated in the Netherlands in 1938. In the late 1950s, a KGB-trained killer, Bohdan Stashinsky, sprayed cyanide gas into the faces of Wasyl Rebet and Stepan Bandera, two major OUN leaders, in Munich. Stashinsky admitted his guilt in court and detailed his training.

Ukrainians have not been innocent of this type of aggression either. Claiming vengeance for the harshness of his policy of "pacification" when part of Ukrainian territory was under Poland, Ukrainians on the German payroll assassinated Polish Interior Minister Bronislaw Pieracki in 1934. In the ensuing uproar, the Germans handed the assassin over to the Poles and then released him in 1939 when they occupied the country.

In the Middle East, the activities of the Stern Gang and then the Irgun Zvai Leumi during WWII to combat British control of what was then Palestine and in the warfare before Israel's establishment resulted in 1944 in the murder of Lord Moyne, British resident minister in Cairo, and in 1946 the death of nearly 100 when the King David Hotel was bombed in Jerusalem.

All the violence of the previous decades, motivated as it usually was by nationalist aspirations, has been dwarfed by the spread of terror from the Middle East and the Balkans to all parts of the West in the 1960s and 1970s, which Claire Sterling calls "Fright Decade I."

Compared with terrorists of an earlier era, the new breed, with a few exceptions, seem to operate without a mass base or popular appeal that would give them the legitimacy of which folklore is made. Even so, their acts far outnumber those of their "romantic" precursors.

In early February, 13 American service personnel were hospitalized

when a bomb exploded near a bar outside U.S. Air Force base not far from Athens, Greece. A new organization, the National Front, claimed responsibility as a protest against Turkish occupation of Cyprus.

In the late 1960s Yasir Arafat emerged to lead Palestinian Arabs against Israelis and to capture world headlines. The Irish Republican Army came to life to resume war against the English in Northern Ireland when Catholics began protesting against religious and economic discrimination in the Six Counties. Even Basque, Corsican and Breton nationalists,



Velicko Kerin, assassin of King Alexander and French Foreign Minister Louis Barthou, is cut down by police sabers after firing his shots.

often tinged with Marxism, set out on the terrorist path to trouble the French and Spanish. Sixteen members of the Basques' ETA in 1970 were convicted of trying to overthrow Franco's regime through armed violence. Three years later the Basques killed Franco's handpicked successor, Adm. Luis Carrero Blanco, with explosives. In 1979 Gen. Alexander M. Haig narrowly escaped death in the same manner. In the late 1960s the Marxist Quebec Liberation Front gave Canadians concern, especially with its practice of booby-trapping mail boxes. Sterling estimates that between 1969 and 1977 some 2,500 young Americans were trained in terrorist tactics in Cuba, a major center for this instruction. The Tupamaros of Uruguay became the envy of their Cuban-trained ilk and nearly destroyed their country.

Unlike the earlier generation of Armenians that usually opposed Turks and Russians equally, the new breed, calling itself the Armenian Secret Army of Liberation, began assassinations of Turkish diplomats around

the world, claiming vengeance for atrocities of six decades ago. Those in France were especially targeted. Not surprisingly, Soviet diplomats have not been touched.

The violence of the 1970s had its roots in the year 1968 when youth manned the barricades in Paris, Red Rudi Dutschke was killed in Germany, the Weatherman emerged in the U.S., rioting students protesting the Vietnam War put campuses under siege and nearly paralyzed the Democratic convention in Chicago.

Those were the years, too, when American embassies and diplomats in many parts of the world, including Khartoum, Kabul and Karachi, became favorite targets.

Since then, as what might be called "Fright Decade II" reached its fifth year, the U.S. embassy in Tehran had been seized and 52 hostages held for 14 months; at least 300 Marines killed and wounded in "peacekeeping" in Beirut; American and NATO military installations bombed in Western Europe; Lebanon President-elect

Bashir Gemayel assassinated and planes hijacked and their passengers held captive for ransom or some political goal.

West Germany's Red Army Faction and France's Direct Action terrorists announced in January that they were merging in Western Europe to hit NATO targets. Fighting Communist Cells, thought to have carried out several bombings in Belgium, dedicated one recent attack to the Red Army Faction.

Will there be a "Fright Decade III"? ■

Soviets Aid Gunmen, Says Israelis' Study

A recent publication of Tel Aviv University's Jaffe Center for Strategic Studies prepared by Elad Shlomi and Ariel Merari concludes that Soviet sponsorship of terrorism is part of its foreign policy.

After studying documents confiscated from terrorist camps and interviewing defectors and captured terrorists, Shlomi and Merari warn that the USSR and its allies have "created a training program that embraces the entire world and produces hundreds of and perhaps thousands of trained terrorists and underground

fighters annually."

Terrorist incidents have increased since the late 1960s, they write, because the Soviet and Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968 encouraged the Soviet Union to divest itself of inhibitions against subversion.

Add to this the desire to weaken NATO and non-Communist European nations and you have Soviet aid to world-wide terrorist groups. The two authors of "The Soviet Bloc and World Terrorism" found no solid evidence, however, that the USSR has established its own terrorist organizations.

Soviet aid, they write, often includes training at the Patrice Lumumba Friendship University for Third World activists and the Lenin Institute, both in Moscow. Tactics are taught at

various schools in the USSR and its proxies. Lest they be caught training West Europeans in the eastern bloc, the Soviets use radical Arab states like Libya and South Yemen for this purpose.

The Soviets' closed society and security by the KGB and GRU prevent Western terrorism in the USSR. Thus, they found, that between 1968 and 1981 only 4.7% of terrorist acts were directed against eastern bloc targets.

Concentration of Soviet-sponsored terrorists and "liberation" movements near vital Caribbean seaports and the Persian Gulf is not haphazard but are aimed at furthering Soviet foreign policy objectives in areas of geo-strategic importance to both East and West, the writers find. ■

VFW Acts On Terrorism

Delegates to the VFW's 85th National Convention in Chicago adopted Resolution 406 urging United States action against international terrorism.

The text follows:

WHEREAS, for years the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and other respected authorities have warned of the increasing threat of terrorism; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of terrorism is simply to terrify and thus destabilize a country or society (in a brilliant 1981 book on this subject, "The Terror Network: The Secret War on International Terrorism" by Claire Sterling, the author cites Libya, Cuba and the PLO as being the principal sources of international terrorism and describes the Soviet Union's role as: "In effect, the Soviet Union simply leaves a loaded

gun on the table leaving others to get on with it."); and

WHEREAS, the Long Commission Report on the Oct. 23, 1983, bombing of the Marine Corps compound in Beirut concluded that terrorism is tantamount to an act of war and that terrorist warfare sponsored by sovereign states or organized political entities to achieve political objectives is a threat to the United States that is increasing at an alarming rate; and

WHEREAS, the Long Commission Report revealed the United States and its forces and facilities both at home (as evidenced by the bombing of the U.S. Capitol Building on Nov. 7, 1983) and abroad is inadequately prepared to deal with this threat; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the 85th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that the President and Congress take immediate steps to accomplish the following:

(a) improve the capability of U.S.

intelligence agencies to collect, analyze and disseminate information about terrorist activities;

(b) improve the posture of the United States and its forces and facilities at home and abroad to deter, defend and counter terrorist activities;

(c) strengthen the FBI and other governmental agencies involved in the detection and prevention of terrorism within the United States;

(d) strengthen U.S. border clearance agencies at airports, harbors and borders to prevent the introduction of "suitcase" nuclear weapons into the United States;

(e) declare as a matter of policy that under no circumstances would this country ever again knuckle under to international terrorism as was the case in Tehran; and

(f) reinstitute the Committee on Internal Security in the U.S. House of Representatives to bolster and extend the Senate Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism. ■

By Dan B. McCarthy

BASEBALL'S HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF FANS ARE TWIRLING turnstiles in the nation's 26 National and American League stadiums.

At Philadelphia's Veterans Stadium, named in honor of U.S. military veterans dating to the American Revolution, two Vietnam veterans are among a diminishing handful of "Nam" veterans still playing in the "biggs."

When spring training opened in late February, the Phillies' outfielder Garry Maddox, dubbed Sarge by his teammates, and pitcher Bill Campbell began working out off-season kinks and aches.

Elsewhere among Vietnam veterans were Bobby Jones, Texas Rangers; Champ Summers, who played last season with the San Diego Padres, and Al Brumby, ex-Baltimore Orioles outfielder released after 1984 play.

Although not in baseball game action, Dick Dent, a veteran of Vietnam and Cambodia combat as an infantry officer, began his 10th campaign as trainer for the San Diego Padres, 1984 National League champions.

The half-dozen Vietnam and baseball veterans listed are those reported in response to a VFW Magazine survey of all 26 major league baseball clubs.

To those players and Vietnam veterans across America, this article is dedicated.

There was that April day in 1970 Vietnam combat, for example, when C Battery cannoneers of the 3rd Battalion, 82nd Artillery, had their hands full.

"Viet Cong were trying to overrun our LZ Siberia base," recalls ex-PFC Robert O. (Bobby) Jones. "Our artillery

Baseball's 'Nam Vets

unit was covering the 196th Light Infantry Brigade from fire support base Siberia. That day, our gun section accounted for most of the effective, penetrating fire power that turned back the Viet Cong attack.

"When things settled down, our cannoneers were awarded the Bronze Star."

This spring at Pompano Beach, Fla., Bobby Jones, of the Texas Rangers, had a different battle on his hands. Jones, who bats and throws left-handed as an outfielder, first baseman and designated hitter, is competing to stay up in the "biggs."

Commenting upon his professional baseball career that began in 1967 at age 17, when he signed with Geneva in the New York-Penn League, Jones said:

"I was batting .357 for the Triple-A Oklahoma City team in 1983 when the Rangers called me up in June. A week later in Oakland I had the game of my

Fewer served in that war than in WWII, but those who did are proud of their service.

career. I went 5-for-5 at the plate which included three doubles and four RBIs!"

Two of Bobby's doubles came in the 15th inning, when the Rangers rallied for 12 runs to blast open a 4-4 tie. The Rangers gobbled up the 16-4 victory.

"That was a dream come true," says Bobby. "I was ready to retire after that game!" But Jones was back in 1984, winning another Rangers' berth, and he reported again to the Rangers this spring.

Glancing down Jones's column of baseball statistics from 1967 to 1984, one notes blank spaces between 1968 and 1970 and reads the meaningful insertion in parentheses: "Military List."

Since WWI scores of pro baseball players have interrupted careers to serve in America's defense.

WWII leads that patriotic list. Forty years later, many baseball fans easily recall names of baseball greats. Ted Williams, Bob Feller, Warren Spahn,

Champ Summers
Former San Diego Padre

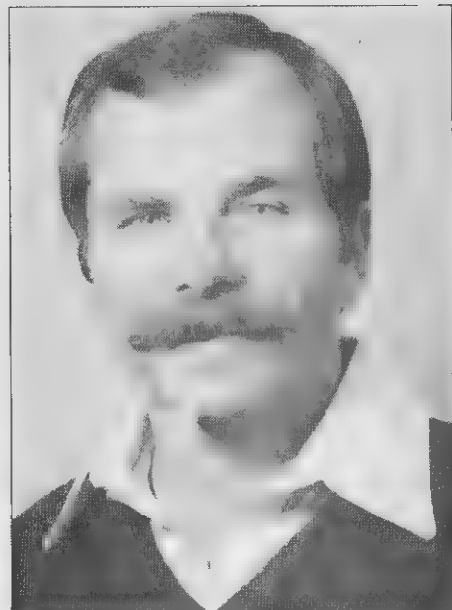


Bobby Jones
Texas Rangers





Bill Campbell
Philadelphia Phillies



Dick Dent
San Diego Padres

Hank Greenberg and the names go on, almost endlessly.

Ten years after Vietnam, Dick Dent, who began military service in 1969, recalled:

"Looking back now, going into the Army was the best thing that ever happened to me. I didn't think so then, but I was a real punk when I went in. I'm not a Nam vet coming out now because it's more fashionable. But it was and is the most important event of my life."

Dent would like to get back in contact with some of his former platoon members. "They're around out there because I had no one killed while I was leading the missions. There was a lot of luck, and I hope, some skill along the way," said Dent.

While he was in Cambodia action, excerpts of a letter Dent wrote to his mother found their way onto the editorial page of his hometown newspaper, the Berwick Pa., Enterprise, dated May 28, 1970. Of his Cambodia combat, he penned:

"I believe in this more than most operations I have been on in Vietnam. From the looks of things, those punks destroying their schools back home should be here if they think they're so tough."

Fifteen years after mailing that letter, Dent thumps and whips the Padres into shape. One of them is pitcher Goose Gossage, whom Dent describes as a model patient.

"Hey, Dick's good!" said Gossage. "If I listen to him and follow his programs, I'll be good all season."

Another Padre hurler, Dave Dra-

vecky, observed: "Dick's program is a real killer. But we're all motivated to finish each day because he does the entire workout with us."

"Traditionally," says Dent, "club-house trainers are called 'Doc.' But it got around about my Vietnam service, so most of the Padres call me by initials, 'LT,' like they did in Nam."

Dent, who finished his Vietnam tour in 1970, was assigned as assistant S-4 with brigade. The Combat Infantryman's Badge, Air Medal, and Bronze Star with "V" device and two oak leaf clusters are entered in his service record.

A shoulder injury, incurred while he wrestled in the Army, flared up during a Mesa College (San Diego) match. That shifted Dent to a trainer's career. Offseason, he conducts a conditioning program at Jack Murphy Stadium for Padres and others interested in baseball. He and his wife, Mary Lou, have two children, Eric, 12, and Michelle, 10.

"My military training has been very important to me, not only in baseball but in life in general. After a year in Vietnam I realize that a four-game losing streak isn't as bad as one might think. I tell a player a sore arm is better than one that is missing through military combat," says Dent.

In 1984 he was selected trainer for the All-Star game in San Francisco, and the Padres went on to victory over the Chicago Cubs for the NL flag. "After last season," he says, "1985 is going to be hard for me to top personally."

Garry Maddox broke into pro ball in

1968 with Salt Lake City and Fresno and by the end of the season was in khaki leading to two years in Vietnam. This season he is in his 11th with the Phillies. In his 1976 earth-shaker season he hit .330 in 146 games. Maddox is an eight-time Gold Glove Award winner.

Another who was awarded the Bronze Star is Al Brumby. He logged 11 months in Vietnam as a platoon leader until his discharge in May, 1971, as a first lieutenant.

Champ Summers was an Army para-trooper from 1968 to 1970 and was in combat at Pleiku. His grand-slam homer in 1984 lifted the Padres to a 7-3 win over St. Louis.

Also in the Tet offensive at Chu Lai, Summers, with 25 jumps as an airborne GI, was also a parachute rigger.

"I didn't play baseball as a pro until I was 25 because of bad timing and the Vietnam action. I didn't play baseball in military service," Summers said.

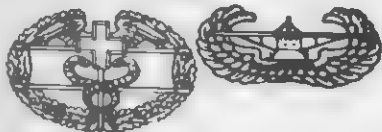
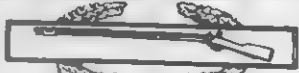
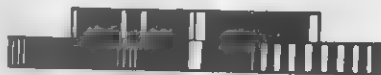
He wears a World Series ring, as he says "after 14 years" for his 1984 year with the San Diego Padres and their National League championship.

During his two years of military service, the Phillies' Bill Campbell was a combat Army radio operator. Switching from a military to baseball uniform in 1971, he broke into pro ball with Wisconsin Rapids. By 1978 he was 17-3 on the hill for the Minnesota Twins, his shining major league effort.

Bobby Jones, recalling a Vietnam comment on baseball, said:

continued on page 38

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- ☐ 16. European-African-M.E. Campaign
- ☐ 17. Korean Service
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- ☐ 22. Navy Unit Commendation
- ☐ 23. Navy Presidential Unit Ck.
- ☐ 24. National Defense Service
- ☐ 25. Philippine Liberation
- ☐ 26. Philippines President Unit Ck.
- ☐ 27. Presidential Unit Citation
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- ☐ 29. Rep. Korea Presidential Unit Ck.
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- ☐ 31. Silver Star
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BASEBALL VETS

continued from page 37

"After we were awarded the Bronze Star, a Stars and Stripes reporter showed up at our LZ Siberia base. He asked if I'd like to play baseball for an Army team in the rear. 'Yes!' I shouted. But I guess he went back and checked my stats and changed his mind. I didn't hear from him again.

"I was drafted in 1969 and had played only a couple years of very minor league baseball and really hadn't done anything by then to impress anyone. But I told myself then, if I ever make it back, I'm going to do everything possible to get to the majors. Well, that's the dream of every player in the minors."

Bobby was with the Rangers briefly in 1974 and 1975, then was in 78 games with the California Angels in 1976 and 14 games the following year. The Angels sold his contract to the Chun-icki Dragons in Nagoya, Japan, where he and Wayne Garrett, formerly of the New York Mets, filled the two Americans per team quota in the Japanese League. Jones played the 1979 and 1980 seasons for Nagoya.

What's the difference between Japanese and American baseball? Jones

was asked. "Some Japanese pitchers won't challenge the American batter who's up, say, with the bases loaded. Instead of taking the chance of the batter getting the grand slam, the batter gets the walk. Better to give up one run, than four.

"The Japanese like to get that first run scored, sort of a psychological feeling that they can go on to win the game," Jones said. "Another thing, the fences are closer to homeplate than in the States."

Bobby and Cindy Jones have a daughter, Jill, 3, and live in Loveland, Colo.

During the 1984 major league baseball season, 20,790,894 spectators cheered their favorites in the National League's 12 stadiums. The 14 American League teams drew 23,953,166 fans.

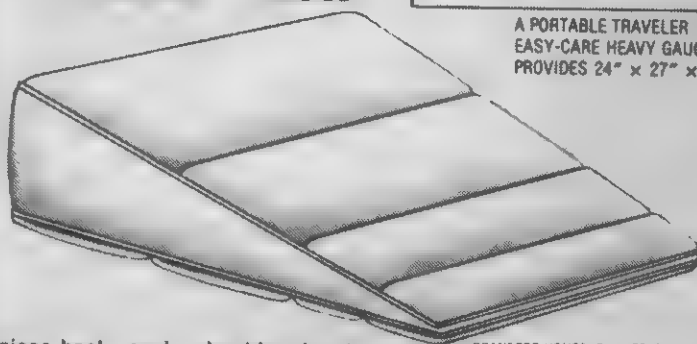
Many fans joined the sing-a-long when stadium organists tapped keys between innings . . . "root-toot-toot for the home team," words written in 1908 by Jack Norworth, with musical score by Albert Vontilzer.

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Invasion force
arrives in
Lingayen Gulf
for the
invasion of
Luzon. Upper
right are
planes of the
7th Fleet Air
Sea Rescue
Squadron.

Dash To Manila

By Jess Carlos

On the night of Jan. 28, 1945, a company of the 6th Ranger Battalion set out on a daring mission to rescue Allied POWs in a Japanese prison camp on Luzon in the Philippines. With the aid of Alamo Scouts and Filipino guerrillas, the raiders successfully freed 411 prisoners from the Cabanatuan prison camp with the loss of only one man.

Emboldened by this feat, Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur ordered a lightning strike far ahead of the frontlines into Manila. Manila, the capital city where MacArthur had spent many eventful years of his life, had been his Holy Grail since the Allied offensive started in New Guinea.

But his immediate objectives were two Japanese-held internment camps in the city: the University of Santo Tomas with nearly 4,000 Allied civilians, and a mile away, Bilibid Prison with more than 800 POWs and civilians. The general had learned that

as his troops approached, the Niponese guards "increased their savagery. The longer the delay, the more of these (prisoners) people would die," wrote Maj. Gen. Courtney Whitney, his intelligence chief.

For the task, MacArthur chose the 1st Cavalry Division that was assembled at Guimba, 70 miles north of Manila.

"Go to Manila. Go around the Nips, bounce off the Nips, but go to Manila. Free the internees at Santo Tomas," he urged Maj. Gen. Verne Mudge, the commanding general. Mudge immediately formed two "flying columns" and placed them under Brig. Gen. William Chase. Each consisted of one squadron, a tank company, a battery of 105mm howitzers, enough vehicles to transport all the troops and their supplies and a provisional reconnaissance squadron. The nucleus squadrons were the 2nd of the 5th Regiment and the 2nd of the 8th Regiment.

On the morning of Feb. 1, the 5th

shoved off and by midday had established contact with a force of 250 Japanese infantrymen outside Cabanatuan. Other elements of the division (not part of the flying columns) joined in the ensuing battle, and by dusk had cleared the area of opposition.

Meanwhile, the 302nd Reconnaissance Troop of the provisional squadron under Capt. Donald H. Walton secured a bridge on Route 5 at Gapan, 13 miles south of Cabanatuan. During the night of Feb. 1-2, the main body of the leading flying column, built around the 2nd Squadron of the 8th Cavalry, passed through the bridge while Walton's force, along with Troop G of the 8th Cavalry, manned defensive positions around the bridge.

Thirty-five miles south of Gapan and near Baliwag, the lead column forded the wide Angat River as crowds

of Filipinos cheered the cavalymen on. While the lead column was busy at Baliwag, the other column—the 5th Regiment—struck east through gently rolling farmland just in case the enemy holding high ground had any plans to fall upon the division's exposed left flank.

Marine air units provided air cover, but because of their presence or the inability of the enemy to strike, proved to be unnecessary.

By the evening of Feb. 2, patrols of the lead column reached Santa Maria 10 miles north of Manila after having traveled on back and circuitous roads to keep out of the 37th Infantry Division's zone on the right. The rest of the flying columns, sometimes reaching speeds up to 30 miles an hour, followed down Highway 5. Where the cavalymen found bridges blown up, they crossed shallow streams and rivers with their weapons held high over their heads.

Relative success of the 1st Cavalry's and the 37th Infantry's southward drive, plus the unopposed amphibious landings of the 11th Airborne Division at Tagaytay and Nasugbu south of

Manila on Jan. 31, when the 8th Army joined Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger's 6th's campaign, prompted Gen. Krueger to order the two divisions to drive to Manila with all possible speed. The most direct approaches to the city lay within the 37th's zone, and so the infantrymen were expected to reach there first via the main Manila North Highway.

But on Feb. 3, the vanguard of the 37th came across unfordable and unbridged tidal streams and had to neutralize pockets of enemy resistance. So while the cavalymen raced on, all the infantrymen could do was wait.

"We could see Manila burning from 20 miles north, held up by a river because a bridge was destroyed and the engineers couldn't come up fast enough with their bridge-building equipment," recalled M/Sgt. Robert Luckel, of Hawaiian Gardens, Calif.

By 6:30 p.m. on the 3rd, the lead cavalry column had reached the Manila suburb of Grace Park, 12 hours ahead of the nearest 37th Infantry Division unit. Led by tanks and guided by Filipino guerrillas, the cavalymen crossed the northern city limits by 7 p.m. and dashed through city streets past sporadic sniper fire. Half an

Infantrymen
search ruins of
a building in
Manila's Walled
City for
Japanese who
put up a bitter
defense.
(National
Archives)



hour later, the cavalymen drew up to the rear concrete wall of Santo Tomas. A tank crashed through the 10-foot wall and the dismounted cavalymen poured in.

But the internment camp's liberation ran into a snag. The Japanese guards kept hostages on the third floor of the Education Building while they held the second floor. "We called a truce and escorted the Japanese out to a warehouse within their lines. Escorting those 80 or so Japanese out of Santo Tomas was one of the scariest things I've ever done," recalled S/Sgt. Prentis Snow, of G Troop. "Fortunately, not a shot was fired then."

While the cavalry columns were closing in on Manila, units of the 37th were being stalled at the outskirts by pockets of enemy resistance and by beer. Some of the advancing soldiers came upon a blown bridge, and "waiting at the bridge were smiling Filipinos with bottles of beer. The beer, they said, came from the nearby Balintawak Beer Brewer," wrote historian Ralph G. Martin.

He adds that there was no problem getting volunteers to reconnoiter the area. And when the troops found the brewer, with its refrigeration still intact, they filled their canteens and 5

-gallon cans with the brew.

The infantrymen entered Manila the next day, Feb. 4, hours after the flying columns had done so to their left. They found the port area and military installations in the northwest section destroyed or burning as the enemy retreated southward.

It was clear to the Americans from the start of the Luzon campaign that Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, the commander in the Philippines, had not intended to make a stand in Manila as he dug in with the bulk of his troops in the mountains and hills of northern Luzon. Left to defend the city were 16,000 navymen and 4,000 soldiers placed under the command of Rear Adm. Sanji Iwabuchi.

With the 1st Cavalry and the 37th Infantry from the north and the 8th Army's 11th Airborne closing in from the south in a giant squeeze play, an overconfident MacArthur issued a communique announcing the im-

minent capture of Manila. He anticipated his forces marching in triumph through the city's avenues a la Champs Elysees. It was not to be.

The battle of Manila was to last a month—from street to street, building to building and floor to floor. Fighting to the death, the Japanese holed up in large government buildings and in Intramuros or Walled City on the southern section of the city. They converted houses into machine gun nests, strung barbed-wire entanglements and made barricades of overturned vehicles. The fighting was savage.

MacArthur entered the city with the 37th, "anxious to rescue as much as I could of my home atop the Manila Hotel," he wrote in his memoirs.

He continued: "We reached the Luneta (park), but were temporarily pinned down on Burnham Green by machine gun fire from the hotel itself. Suddenly, the penthouse blazed into flame." So much for the general's penthouse home.

GIs disembark in southern section of Manila in the final stage of the battle for the city. (National Archives)

James H. Willis, then a 37th Division infantry sergeant, armed with a .45, led a platoon of men fighting from floor to





Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur joins the 503rd Parachute Infantry, of the 11th Airborne Division, in saluting the Flag as it is raised on Corregidor.
(Army Photo)

stronghold for fear of killing the civilians.

Our guns, firing point blank from 75 yards out, could not damage the walls, I suggested to an officer to try and finally the cannon blew a good-sized hole in the wall," said Cpl. Michael Faysash, of the 37th, Bellflower, Calif.

The dash to Manila had been a comparative walk-on. Past Clark Field and Cabanatuan, the troops were met and cheered on by jubilant Filipinos flashing "victory" signs. And the enemy was nowhere to be found.

But the liberation of Manila turned out to be a brutal and costly affair. Some 100,000 Filipinos and 1,000 Americans died and colonial Spain's "Noble and Ever Loyal City" lay in ruins. "Manila," said 8th Army commander Lt. Gen. Robert Eichelberger, "has ceased to exist except for some places that the Japanese thought were not worth defending or where our American troops got in by surprise."

The success of the 1st Cavalry's and

37th Infantry's drive was achieved largely because the enemy abandoned the central plains for the hills and mountains of Luzon. No less important were the command of the air, U.S. intelligence, aided by Filipino guerrillas and a friendly population. The favorable, dry weather prevailing at the time helped the Americans immeasurably.

The battle for the city was, as noted, another story. When the smoke cleared, what remained was the second most devastated city in World War II. Americans who had known the city in pre-war times had to grope their way by a few remaining landmarks and their own memory to find where they were going. Today, thanks to adequate infusions of U.S. aid and Filipino enterprise, Manila has bounced back and in fact has grown many times its 1940s' size.

Rebuilt in their former stature are the cluster of government buildings south of the Pasig River: the Manila Post Office, City Hall, Finance Building, Legislative Building and the University of the Philippines. Restoration of the ancient walls of the Walled City is

floor in the hotel. He and his comrades were stunned when they saw more than 100 Japanese jump to their deaths from the top floors. "No one surrendered to my outfit," said Willis, long active in the VFW and a Past National Chief of Staff.

Most difficult for the Americans was the 150-acre Walled City, with walls as thick as 20 feet across, and where hundreds of Japanese troops were trapped inside with 4,000 Filipino civilians. For six days, more than 100 heavy guns, howitzers and mortars bombarded the ancient citadel. MacArthur had to restrain the Air Force from bombing the



**Two minutes
after landing
on Lingayen,
Luzon, these
troops move
out from the
beachhead.**

(Army Photo)

nearing completion.

North of the Pasig, the University of Santo Tomas hums with the scholastic activities of thousands of young Filipinos. Bilibid Prison is gone. In its place has sprung the Central Market, a maze of stalls and small shops.

Very few reminders of the war remain. Damaged parts of the Walled City, unrestored parts of Fort Santiago and the neglected ruins of a mansion here and there are the only mementos of the fighting.

Highway 5, down which the flying columns raced southward, is now a two-lane transportation artery for commerce and people. The Manila-Baguio North Road, down which the infantrymen marched to Manila, also has been widened into a two-lane thoroughfare connecting a series of densely populated towns—and re-named MacArthur Highway. It is a fitting tribute to the man who symbolized America's commitment to the liberation and freedom of the Filipinos.

Two miles southeast of Manila stand rows of white crosses and stars of David at the U.S. Memorial Ceme-

tery. Here lie, so far away from home, the 17,000 dead from Leyte, Manila, Cagayan Valley, Ipo Dam, Davao, Bataan, Corregidor and other battles in the Pacific Theater.

Thus the conclusion of the campaign in the Philippines wrote finis to the battle that began 3½ years earlier, marked by tremendous heroism by U.S. troops and their allies in the Philippines, many of whom were part of the Regular Army, as they fought on Bataan and then until the loss of Corregidor in May, 1942. Many continued guerrilla warfare, along with the people of the Philippines, against the Japanese occupiers. Promised independence, the Philippines became a free nation on July 4, 1946.

The war years were costly to the Philippines in lives and property and

human suffering, but through it all, the heroic people bore up knowing they would one day emerge in freedom to take their place with the nations of the world.

To their honor, the Philippine and U.S. governments have erected on the country's most hallowed ground, the Shrine of the Pacific War on Corregidor and a towering cross, the Altar of Valor on Mount Samat on Bataan. Atop the list of the Philippines' war memorials is Corregidor. The tadpole-shaped island at the entrance of Manila Bay is preserved with all its war ruins and rusting howitzers as the supreme testimonial to the U.S. and the Philippines' common sacrifice four decades ago to restore freedom in that part of the world.

About the author

A Chicago area newspaper reporter and native of the Philippines, Jess Carlos has returned often to the islands where he lived as a youth during WWII.

Take Your Medicine

The old saying about an apple a day keeping the doctor away takes on new meaning with the advent of once-daily medications for many chronic diseases. Asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, hypertension and diabetes can be controlled with medication and now millions of people need take that medicine only once each day.

While an apple a day won't make much difference to sufferers of chronic diseases, the new once-daily medications offer freedom and confidence. The patient has the freedom to stop watching the clock for the time of the next dose and the freedom to engage in normal activities without fear of a breakthrough of symptoms and to forget, for a while, about his condition that won't go away.

Confidence provided by the new wave of medications is even more important to both the patient and his doctor. Pharmaceutical science has developed new drug delivery systems that distribute medication over 24-hour periods.

This means that one dose of medicine, for the treatment of asthma or emphysema, for example, taken in the morning, will work all day and through the night. This offers a dramatic change for sufferers who are all too accustomed to waking each night short of breath, coughing, with tightness of the chest.

Any medicine works only if it is taken at the time prescribed and in the amount appropriate for the individual. While that sounds like common sense, a frightening 20% to 25% of all hospital admissions are due to patients' failure to follow their prescribed medical regimens according to a 1981 article in *Behavioral Medicine*.

Recent studies have shown that 40% of the elderly and 70% of the chronically ill do not take their medicine properly. Doctors, however, agree that patient education, coupled with medications that are simpler and easier to take, can go a long way toward solving the problem.

In an era when the costs of health care concern patients, hospitals and particularly tax payer-supported programs such as Medicare, costs incurred through noncompliance seem an unnecessary burden.

Dr. Allan T. Luskin, professor of immunology at Rush Medical Center in Chicago, is an asthmatic himself who treats patients with respiratory problems. He relies on once-daily medication.

Dr. Luskin expresses the problem this way:

"Failure to take medication often results in recurrence of the illness.

Cost per day to the patient with the new once-daily delivery system remains about the same as that of the other, twice-a-day theophylline preparations

requiring additional visits to the doctor's office, hospitalization and additional expenses for medication.

In my experience, once-daily dosing for chronic respiratory conditions can make the difference in patient compliance. As many as 90% of patients cooperate when medicine is prescribed for them only once a day, versus lower rates when prescribed two, three or four times daily.

"If we doctors make it easier for the patient to comply with prescription instructions, we can help these patients get maximum benefits from the

impressive array of products of modern medical science," he said. "We can treat and control many chronic respiratory conditions today because we have the right medications to do the job. But, we need to be sensitive to the impact of bothersome instructions on the patient and his family's life."

The first once-daily medication for asthma, bronchitis and emphysema, Theo-24[®] (theophylline anhydrous), is the same medicine that had been used safely and effectively for more than 50 years. It is now possible for many patients to take it just once a day because it has been formulated into tiny beads within a capsule so that the beads release a consistent amount of medicine over 24 hours. Cost per day to the patient with the new once-daily delivery system remains about the same as that of the other, twice-a-day theophylline preparations.

Once-a-day medications deliver the same amount of the drug as the patient would take over 24 hours with multiple dosing regimens. The dosage is adjusted by the physician to meet the specific needs of each patient, but with specially-designed once-a-day drugs, the day's correct dose is taken all at one time.

For many people, the idea of a chronic condition — one that won't go away and cannot be cured — is frightening. This fright, coupled with the often complicated, often necessary instructions, just makes matters worse.

Yet, medicine is generally available that will control chronic respiratory conditions so that patients really feel better. The chronic nature of the conditions, however, means the sufferer must continually take the medication in order to maintain improved health. As soon as the medicine is halted, the underlying condition surfaces again.

Dr. Luskin switched from taking medicine three times daily to once a day. "As a doctor, I know how important compliance is, yet I used to get busy and forget my medicine, too. Now I take it once every morning." ■



These mementos of her son, SP 4 Roy A. Harbaugh, Jr., were unveiled by Mrs. Goldie Harbaugh, right, and Commander Burnell W. Moul, of Post 2506, Hanover, Pa., as part of the ceremonies dedicating the Post's ballroom to him.

Commander Al Walsh, of VFW Post 6694, Baltimore, Md., presented a \$1,000 check in behalf of the Post to the director of the Fort Howard VA Medical Center, Robert Haith, Jr., and Dr. Annamaria Basili, chief of audiology and speech pathology at the facility.

The check will be used to purchase a new Commodore 64 Computer with software and a special eye-sensor device that attaches to the computer. The eye-sensor device will enable paralyzed non-verbal veteran patients, with only an eye blink reflex, to communicate their thoughts, feelings and wants to medical center staff and, what is most important, to their immediate families, relatives and friends.

Also participating in the presentation were Jr. Vice Commander Bud Woolfenden, Post community service officer; Elmer Smith, Post hospital Chairman; Jim Whitaker, chief of Voluntary Service at the facility, and Paul Magalian, associate medical center director.

Thanks to a proclamation signed by Gov. Allen I. Olson, the week of last Nov. 27 to Dec. 3 was Voice of Democracy Week in North Dakota.

In his proclamation, Olson commended the VFW and its Ladies Auxiliary for sponsoring the program and urged 10th to 12th grade students to participate.

Competing in this year's contest in North Dakota were 1,092 students from 80 schools sponsored by 39 Posts and 38 Ladies Auxiliaries. Monetary awards in the Department of North Dakota totalled \$12,662.

Simone Veil, past president of the European Parliament, was the speaker recently at a dinner for her given by Post 605 in Paris.

A wartime prisoner in the Nazi concentration camps of Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen, she received from Post Commander Robert Whitbread the Post Medal of Honor.

Europe and the United States, she said, must cooperate to safeguard freedom, although differences of opinion will always exist, not only with the U.S. but within European countries.

Richard F. Moore, of Ottawa, Ill., Illinois Department Assistant Director of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, has won the \$500 F.W. Woolworth Co. Volunteer Service Grand Award for his work in the statewide program.

He will be one of 20 persons to be nominated on an international basis

for program grants of as much as \$3,000 sponsored by the National Retail Merchants Association for its member companies. Finalists also are eligible for the 1985 President Volunteer Action Award competition endorsed by President Reagan.

This is the second award of its kind Moore has won and both have gone directly to his Post 2470 in his name and the \$400 total for both will be used in a state program for teen-agers dealing with drug abuse.

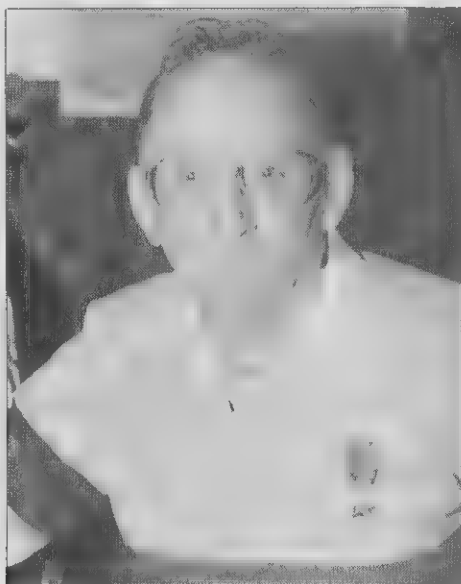
Leo Hess, a member of Post 6318, Eagle Bend, Minn., has received a belated Bronze Star and an Oak Leaf Cluster to wear with his Purple Heart. Hess, a rifle company sergeant in the 36th Division, rescued a lieutenant and pinned down in a field in France near the Rhine River.

It required three years for Service Officer Doug Kottom to obtain the medals for Hess. He had already received his Purple Heart and the Silver Star, but the Bronze and Oak Leaf Cluster took 40 years.

Past Department of Virginia Commander Jake Tate, Jr., had a few words of interest to veterans to say in an interview with the Danville, Va., Bee:

With Gov. Allen I. Olson, of North Dakota, as he signed a Voice of Democracy proclamation are William Stepp, of the National VOD Committee; Department Commander Arthur Streed, VOD Chairman James Waagen and Ladies Auxiliary VOD Chairman Myrna Green.





Leo Hess receives belated Bronze Star and Oak Leaf Cluster for his Purple Heart.

"The Congressmen nowadays don't know about fighting. They don't know about the horrors of war. Don't get me wrong about the men not in service. I don't blame them who didn't go into service. I'm not partial that way. I just said, 'You lucky thing you.'"

Tate's comments were made in connection with cuts in veterans' benefits already made and others pending. He is Vice Chairman of the National Credentials Committee.

Post 2506, Hanover, Pa., recently dedicated its ballroom to Sp 4 Roy A. Harbaugh, Jr., who was killed in Vietnam in 1968 while serving with the 25th Division. He was the first from Hanover to die in that war.

Commander Burnell W. Moul conducted the dedicatory ceremonies, while the Rev. Jack R. Hoffman, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, praised Harbaugh "who dies a soldier's death."

The plaque unveiled by his mother, Mrs. Goldie Harbaugh, contains a picture of him, his medals and the flag that draped his coffin when he was buried.

Their dukers are up in Hazard, Ky. A report in the February issue about **Post 7387** honoring the area's last surviving World War I veteran placed the town in non-existent Hazard County. It should have been Perry County.

When your knees go bad...you're in trouble!

Now thanks to Coach "Cotton" Barlow, there's an answer!

Custom form fitting pad design prevents slipping and affords maximum mobility and comfort.

Lightweight non-metal construction allows full range of motion and can be comfortably worn for hours.

Improves knee function and relieves discomfort.

material insulates, warms and soothes knee joint.

Adds strength and stability directly to where support and protection is needed.

Comes in 5 different sizes to ensure proper fit for either knee.

Nobody knows more about crippling knee pain, stiffness and strain than "Cotton" Barlow.

The veteran football coach has seen plenty of it in his years on and off the field.

He's also discovered that ordinary knee supports and elastic bandages just can't do the job. So he finally set to work to find a way to add strength and stability directly to the joint where support and protection are needed most.

FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES

Today, thanks to his unique invention, thousands of men, women and children of all ages lead active, pain-free lives despite serious knee problems.

Coach Barlow's fantastic invention uses no metal yet it provides maximum lateral and cap support. This incredibly lightweight support absorbs shocks and prevents twisting. And the BARLOW™ knee support provides soothing warmth to injured or arthritic joints.

So comfortable you can wear it for hours and non-allergenic too. Choose from five sizes for your perfect fit.

NO RISK OFFER

We urge you to try Coach Barlow's remarkable knee support for 30 days. If it doesn't bring you pain-free relief, we'll refund your purchase price without question.

Don't let the pain and anxiety of "bad" knees get you down. Order today. Specify size in coupon below.

WHAT MEN AND WOMEN OF ALL AGES SAY:

"I'm 80 years old and certainly not an athlete... but now I can garden again and be active 'cause I wear your brace." L.W. Oconto Falls, WI

"At first I wasn't sure... now I want a brace for the other knee. I've had knee problems for the last 5 years. I only wish I had known of this brace 5 years ago. I'm so grateful. Thank you." J.N. Hartwell, GA

"This support is a great help to me. I could hardly get around before I got it. Thank you." A.J. Springfield, OR

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Enclosed please find \$_____ for _____ BARLOW knee supports.

- ☐ One BARLOW knee support \$19.95 plus \$1.50 Shpg. & Hdlg.
☐ Two BARLOW knee supports \$39.90 plus \$2.50 Shpg. & Hdlg.

Enclosed is my ☐ Check ☐ Money Order or Charge my ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard.
Credit Card Customers call NOW! Toll Free 1-800-824-7888 Operator #115

Card No _____ Exp. Date _____

FOR CORRECT SIZE
Measure around the knee, one inch above the knee cap

CIRCLE ONE

(SM under 15") (MED 15" to under 17") (LG 17" to under 19") (XL 19" to under 21") (XXL 21" and over). If in doubt, send exact measurement _____.

(circle one)
Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

When in Sandpoint, visit Barlow Inc



Commander George E. McCracken, of the Department of Virginia, presents a VFW plaque to Mrs. Emogene M. Cupp, national treasurer of the Gold Star Mothers, for support they have given VFW programs. Award was made at the Veterans Day dinner of Post 609 at Gadsby's Tavern, Alexandria, Va.



This wreath was laid at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington by Post 632, Harrisonburg, Va.



Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron receives dues transmittals from Commander Earl H. Stone, of Post 2681, Marietta, Ga., during a membership roundup.



Bergen County, N.J., Freeholder Barbara Chadwick views progress being made on construction of the New Jersey Home for Disabled Veterans in Paramus. Fifteen acres were donated by the freeholders for the facility. With her are Department Commander Jack Doonan, Hospital Chairman George Schreib and District 2 Commander Russell Fenn

Department Commanders-of-the-Month

February



DIV. I

Glen A. Rohr (3)
Ohio



DIV. II

Dino Costantini
Michigan



DIV. III

Edwin H. Shuman
Florida



DIV. IV

Casimir (Charles)
Lukoski (6)
Maryland



DIV. V

George E. McCracken (3)
Virginia



DIV. VI

Arthur W. Triplett, Sr.
Mississippi



DIV. VII

Donald A. Esposito
Arizona



DIV. VIII

Arthur Streed (5)
North Dakota



DIV. IX

Robert Smith (6)
Alaska



DIV. X

Edward Stewart (4)
Hawaii

(Parenthetical number indicates times Commander has won this honor.)

National Aides-de-Camp

The following VFW members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, for 1984-85. To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the dues of at least 50 new or reinstated members, or any combination of both totalling 50.

Thomas Rye, Post 6506, Jarrettsville, Md.; Edgar L. Horswill, Post 1325, Portland, Ore.; Robert Folch, Post 9186, San Antonio, Texas;

Jack Duich and Dick Steinert, Post 5555, Richfield, Minn.; Ronald Burkes, Post 813, Dubois, Pa.; George A. Hancock, Post 4848, Chattanooga, Tenn.; George A. McBroom, Post 6020, Daleville, Ala.; Theodore Dzielak, Post 2135, Peoria, Ariz.; Sam Adams, Post 2278, Hot Springs, Ark.; Ernie Kyzer, Post 4548, Jacksonville, Ark.; John J. Hiller, Post 4171, Golden, Colo.; Carl D. Perkins, Post 2562, Silver Spring, Md.; Fred R. Wilcox, Post

639, Malden, Mass.; and Wilfred P. Letendre, Post 662, Lowell, Mass.

Vincent P. Reed, Jr., Eugene G. Smith, Albert McCarthy, Francis E. Barker, James McCarthy, Robert J. Kane and Matthew Femino, Post 6712, Revere, Mass.; Bernard J. Warnock, Post 1302, Kearny, N.J.; George E. Goodrich, Post 2314, Carteret, N.J.; Gerard P. Miserandino, Sr., Post 5016, Warnerville, N.Y.; and Dennis R. Barnhardt, Post 6480, Concord, N.C.

Marty

FRED, IN THIS V.F.W. LITE-A-BIKE BICYCLE SAFETY PROGRAM, YOUR JOB IS TO HELP BIKES TO BE MORE VISIBLE BY PUTTING THIS 3M REFLECTIVE TAPE ON EACH KID'S BIKE.



HOW MUCH TAPE DO I PUT ON, MARTY?

THAT'S A LITTLE HARD TO ANSWER...



District Commanders-of-the-Month

February

DIV. I District 8 Indiana Wilford McDaniel (6)	DIV. II District 21 Florida Harry E. Burroughs (2)	DIV. III District 7 Virginia Ray K. Billhimer	DIV. IV District 19 Florida Roscoe R. Staley (3)
DIV. V District 20 California Tom Pearson (3)	DIV. VI District 2 Maryland Douglas Powell (3)	DIV. VII District 3 South Carolina William H. Chapman (3)	DIV. VIII District 14 Arkansas Perry Hickman (6)

Post Commanders-of-the-Month

DIV. I Post 1114 Indiana Orbit Scott (6)	DIV. II Post 2539 Mississippi Lionel Lamberg (3)	DIV. III Post 6712 Massachusetts Vincent P. Reed, Jr. (2)	DIV. IV Post 9223 California Elbert C. Theisen (3)	DIV. V Post 4809 Virginia Walter G. Bryan (5)
DIV. VI Post 8463 Florida Nicholas A. Duva (5)	DIV. VII Post 4667 Virginia Marshall E. Guy (6)	DIV. VIII Post 2097 Connecticut Michael T. Gorman (2)	DIV. IX Post 6180 Florida Peter Puentes (3)	DIV. X Post 2435 Pennsylvania Clyde Kraft (3)
DIV. XI Post 3620 New Jersey John R. Murray (3)	DIV. XII Post 10252 Alaska Vernon L. Jones (5)	DIV. XIII Post 6480 North Carolina Bobby G. Canupp (3)	DIV. XIV Post 8496 North Carolina Lyle C. Baxley	DIV. XV Post 7721 Florida Clarence J. Smuder (4)
DIV. XVI Post 1932 California Ernest A. Sanford (2)	DIV. XVII Post 10210 Florida Roy L. Kinney, Jr. (3)	DIV. XVIII Post 4517 Arkansas Bobby D. Hoggard (4)	DIV. XIX Post 4638 Alabama Roosevelt Parker (2)	DIV. XX Post 2728 Kentucky Larry Hicks (5)

(Parenthetical number indicates times Commander has won this honor.)

Order of Parade

Standings are based on per capita tax transmittals received at National Headquarters through Feb. 28, 1985.

NATIONAL AVERAGE — 94.77%

1	ALASKA	102.74	16	Minnesota	96.46	36	Montana	93.60
2	Ohio	99.45	17	Hawaii	96.14	37	New Mexico	93.51
3	Virginia	98.76	18	Iowa	96.02	38	Connecticut	93.30
4	North Dakota	97.89	19	Vermont	95.78	39	Idaho	92.97
5	Delaware	97.84	20	Kansas	95.39	40	West Virginia	92.49
6	Arizona	97.82	21	Wisconsin	95.08	41	Massachusetts	92.18
7	Nebraska	97.80	22	Arkansas	95.05	42	Texas	92.04
8	Mississippi	97.60	23	Louisiana	94.96	43	Kentucky	90.74
9	South Dakota	97.58	24	Missouri	94.91	44	Alabama	90.10
10	Maryland	97.54	25	Illinois	94.82	45	Nevada	89.78
11	North Carolina	97.35	26	New Jersey	94.79	46	Tennessee	89.54
12	Florida	97.23	27	Washington	94.66	47	Oklahoma	88.974
13	Indiana	97.11	28	Pennsylvania	94.40	48	Georgia	88.969
14	Michigan	96.63	29	New York	94.37	49	Wyoming	88.69
15	Maine	96.48	30	Oregon	94.36	50	Pacific Area	88.29
			31	Rhode Island	94.25	51	District of Columbia	87.62
			32	California	94.18	52	Utah	80.11
			33	Colorado	93.89	53	Panama Canal	75.09
			34	South Carolina	93.71	LAST	Germany	71.91
			35	New Hampshire	93.64			

Group Purchasing Power Gives VFW Members Best Deals on Life Insurance

National Headquarters is always on the lookout for the best deals around in top quality voluntary member benefits. One of the foremost examples of its success in providing VFW-sponsored insurance plans is the VFW-Sponsored National Life Insurance Plan.

The plan is available to VFW members and their families only. It provides an ample choice of coverage amounts that are available in units. The amount of insurance you can apply for depends on your age and the number of units you wish to purchase. While under age 60, you are eligible for up to five units providing as much as \$65,105 in coverage under age 25 to \$7,600 between ages 55 and 59. Members between ages 60 and 69 may also apply for up to five units of coverage in amounts designed especially for them.

This is a level premium to age 60 decreasing term life insurance plan. That means your rate for the number of units you select will not increase until you reach age 60. If you are insured before age 60, you pay nothing from age 70 on.

The plan is designed to provide the most insurance at the ages when your financial responsibilities are the greatest and gradually to decrease the amount of insurance as your responsibilities decrease in later years. For many members, this is an ideal plan because it starts affordable and stays affordable.

The cost of this valuable protection is surprisingly low. Because of the VFW's 2 million member strong purchasing power, the National Life Insurance Plan is available to members

for as little as 7 cents a day per unit of coverage. What's more, spouse coverage is available for the same economical rate per unit. Child coverage is available also for about 2 cents a day for all dependent children no matter how many there may be.

Protection this affordable makes it easy for VFW members to plan ahead and help secure a more financially stable future for their families. This is one of the top priorities of National Headquarters.

Its goal is to see that members are given every opportunity to take advantage of the voluntary benefits of VFW membership—especially those that can help as much as this plan. The benefit this coverage provides can truly make the difference for so many families who suffer the loss of their breadwinner because today many families are dangerously under insured.

Years of rising costs have severely reduced the purchasing power of life insurance purchased as few as 10 years ago. And if it has been more than five years since you added to your life insurance, it is possible that your family's future financial security could be in danger if something happened to you.

But with the VFW-Sponsored National Life Insurance Plan available at such an affordable cost, there is no time like right now to bring your life insurance up to an amount that will really help the loved ones you leave behind.

As with all VFW-Sponsored Insurance Plans, this valuable National Life Insurance Plan is fully endorsed and recommended for members by National Headquarters. It has earned the Official VFW Seal of Approval for quality, fair pricing and service after the sale.

If you are concerned about your family's financial well-being and want to know more about the VFW-Sponsored National Life Insurance Plan, call toll-free 1-800-821-2606 from 8:30

a.m. to 4 p.m., Central Time, any business day. (In Missouri, call collect 816-561-2338.) Your free information and applications will be mailed to you. There is no risk or obligation on your part.

Purchase Power Update

Calls placed to the *Band & Orchestra vendor* will be intercepted to the national WATS number of the Electronic Instruments vendor (800-526-0014). However, members calling from New York State will not be able to get through on this line. New York residents should call 1-800-292-2722.

Announcing New Record & Cassette Program: You can order all your records and cassettes by mail from a leading national supplier. Members get up to 40% off regular rental prices, plus special discounts for cash payments.

All current new releases and older records and cassettes are available in pop, classical, rock, country, jazz, movie sound tracks, concerts, language, even historic and radio reruns.

You get an extra Purchase Power Discount of 10% on items from the Special Yellow Catalog Section of hard to find records and cassettes. For Free Catalog write: IRTC, P.O. Box 833, Gracie Station, New York, N.Y. 10028. After receiving your catalog, you may then place your order by telephone or mail.

As an extra bonus, with your first order you will receive a Free Record Cleaning cloth or a Cassette Head Cleaner—your choice.

Remember to note your Purchase Power Group Number and your Individual I.D. Number.

To enroll in Purchase Power, send \$4 (annual fee) to: VFW Member Benefits, 34th & Broadway, Kansas City, Mo. 64111. Be certain to include your name, address, Post number and membership number along with a short note requesting enrollment in this program.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States

1984-85 Series

General Orders No. 7

1. The following appointments are hereby announced: NATIONAL BAND AND DRUM CORPS COMMITTEE: Member: Michael Petrone, Post 226, Bayonne, N.J. NATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE: Member: Dowd Brandt, Post 9662, Des Moines, Iowa. NATIONAL COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE: Members: William Shields, Member-at-Large and Charles B. Wilkerson, Post 9808, Mechanicsville, Va. NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Member: Donald A. Bailey, Post 33, Greensburg, Pa. NATIONAL SAFETY COMMITTEE: Members: Ed B. Hitt, Post 4382, Waycross, Ga.; Richard F. Lombard, Post 3789, Florien, La.; Wilbur C. Lyons, Post 8246, Vidor, Texas, and Joseph E. Nicotre, Post 1736, Alexandria, La. NATIONAL YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE: Member: John E. Quint, Post 425, Hopkins, Minn. NATIONAL AIDES-DE-CAMP MEDAL OF HONOR CLASS: Lawson P. Ramage, Member-at-Large, and George E. Wahlen, Post 1481, Ogden, Utah.

2. Attention is directed to Section 217 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure covering the nomination, election and installation of Post Officers. Post Election Report forms are being mailed to Post Quartermasters with instructions that they complete and return the forms to Department and National Headquarters *immediately following* the election of Post Officers.

Post Officers shall be installed into their respective offices at a regular or special meeting held not less than twenty (20) days nor more than sixty (60) days prior to the Department Convention, but shall not assume their duties until the Department Commander is installed. Proof of eligibility must be on file with the Adjutant prior to installation.

3. Section 222 of the National By Laws provides that Posts shall elect delegates and alternates to County Council at the same time the annual election of Post Officers is held. Posts are entitled to two (2) delegates and two (2) alternates for the first fifty (50) members or fraction thereof; and one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each additional fifty (50) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the time of election.

Delegates and alternates to District Conventions shall be elected at a regular Post meeting held not less than (30) days prior to the District Convention at which District Officers are to be elected; one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each fifteen (15)

members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the time of the election or as the Department By-Laws may provide.

Delegates and alternates to the Department Convention shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Post held not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Department Convention. Posts are entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the time of the election or as the Department By-Laws may provide.

4. Section 317 of the Manual of Procedure provides that elective County Council Officers shall be nominated, elected and installed at the first meeting after April 30. Said officers will not assume their duties until the Department Commander is installed. Proof of eligibility must be on file with the Adjutant prior to installation.

5. Pursuant to Section 405 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, each District shall hold an annual District Convention for the purpose of electing District officers, such Convention to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than sixty (60) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention. District officers shall not assume the duties of their office until the Department Commander is installed. Proof of eligibility must be on file with the Adjutant prior to installation.

6. The sale of VFW Buddy Poppies will be conducted according to the provisions set forth in Section 711 of the National Constitution and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Department, District, County Council and Post Commanders should arrange now for the sale of Buddy Poppies in their respective areas. All profits accruing from the sale of Buddy Poppies shall be used for the relief of disabled and needy veterans and their dependents.

7. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure, Duty of Trustees. Form P-133, Trustees Report of Audit, must be prepared in detail at the close of each Quarter, one of which ends March 31st.

8. Each Post shall register, in advance, at least one delegate to the National Convention (Section 222). Advance registration for the 86th National Convention is six dollars (\$6.00) and should be mailed, with delegate's name and address, to

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States 86th National Convention, The Hyatt Regency Hotel, 300 Reunion Boulevard, Dallas, Texas 75207.

9. National ritual competition will be held at the 86th National Convention providing a minimum of five (5) competing teams, representing at least three (3) Departments, make application to J. Robert Brady, Chairman, National Band and Drum Corp Committee by July 15, 1985, that they plan to enter National competition.

10. The locations of the following Posts have been changed: Post 3210 from Ocean Lake to Lincoln City, Ore.; Post 7381 from Haynesville to Homer, La., and Post 8119 from North Naples to Naples, Fla.

11. Certificates of charter evidencing consolidation have been issued to the following Posts: Posts 1278 and 1339 consolidated as Post 1278, Detroit, Mich.; Posts 1732 and 3902 consolidated as Post 1732, South Gate, Calif.; Posts 2001 and 3802 consolidated as Post 2001, Porterville, Calif., and Posts 2367 and 10741 consolidated as Post 2367, Vernal, Utah.

12. Charters for the following Posts have been authorized: Post 334, Lake Orion, Mich.; Post 339, Sicklerville, N.J.; Post 1396, Cannonsburg, Ky.; Post 2685, Princeton Township, N.J.; Post 3131, Morehead, Ky.; Post 3241, Taylorsville, Ky.; Post 3468, Park Forest, Ill.; Post 3681, Pawnee, Ill.; Post 3829, Springfield, Ill.; Post 3889, Virden, Ill.; Post 5186, Hawesville-Lewisport, Ky.; Post 5943, Philadelphia, Pa.; Post 6453, Natchitoches, La.; Post 6584, Portland, Ind.; Post 6921, Anderson, Ind.; Post 7778, Thomson, Ga.; Post 7795, Wales, N.Y.; Post 7942, Maxton, N.C.; Post 8528, New York, N.Y.; Post 8619, Maine, N.Y.; Post 8713, Brooksville, Fla.; Post 8926, San Antonio, Texas; Post 9207, Mequon-Thiensville, Wis.; Post 9233, Castalia, Ohio; Post 9361, Carrizo Springs, Texas; Post 9355, Omaha, Neb.; Post 9720, Bristol, Tenn.; Post 9854, Vinton, La.; Post 9859, Van Horn, Texas; and Post 9925, Monroe, La.

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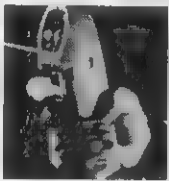
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continued from page 4

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31st Hosp. Station (New Caledonia)—Seeking Paul H. Jacques (Glen Ellen, Ill.)—Louis J. Lepiak, 1403 Forest Hills Dr., Holiday, FL 33590

58th Sqdn. (Korea, 1955-56)—Seeking anyone who served with me, esp. E.J. Paul of Bumberland, Ky.—Alfons Pollenter, 2106 Riverview St., Port Huron, MI 48060

12th SPS (Phu Cat, Vietnam, 1970-71)—Seeking anyone who remembers me being hospitalized for malaria and pneumonia; also incident involving three members of a SAT team hitting an antitank mine.—Glenn Dumble, 411 William St., Boonton, NJ 07005

366th Tactical Ftr. Wing, Dispensary (Da-Nang, Vietnam, 1968)—Seeking Capt. Norman Harris, MC, or anyone who worked with him.—Frederick Kawa, 764 Bedford St., Whitman, MA 02383

ALL BRANCHES

Oran, Co. G (Nov. 8, 1940)—Seeking survivors of invasion.—James Newman, 2270 N Biron Dr., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

121st Evac. & Osaka Navy Hosp. (Oct. 1954-Feb. 1955)—Seeking Lt. M. Dixon, others who remember me.—Roy S. Ice, 609 El Tejon, Oildale, CA 91308

ARMY

3d Div., 7th Inf., Co. E, 2d Pltn. (Nuremberg, Germany, April 19, 1945)—Seeking Sgts. Joseph Montgomery, Paul Jerome, others who remember when shell hit inside house while guarding German prisoners.—Truby L. Horne, 1210 Rocky River Rd S, Monroe, NC 28110

1st Inf. Div., 1st Engr. Bn., Co. D (Vietnam, Oct. 1965-Oct. 1966)—Seeking 1st Lt. Truesdale (N.Y.), Sgt. Kingsbury (W. Va.), Sp4s O'Brien (N.J.) and Casey (Minn.)—Sp4 Billy Joe (Snake) Roark, 2303 Morton Ave., Norwood, OH 45212

746th ROB (England, France, Belgium, Germany)—Seeking anyone who remembers me being sick and treated for stomach ailments, nervous condition and frozen feet.—W.C. Parham, 1325 Beal St., Rocky Mount, NC 27801

Ft. Belvoir, Va. (1945-46)—Seeking anyone who was in rear of Army truck as a passenger en route to Ft. Belvoir from train station at Accountink, truck hit a pole with high tension wires, pole split, falling over cab and rear of truck; two passengers in rear may have died; also seeking Lt. Col Lighthipp, Lts. McFadden and Giberson.—Charles P. Kearney, 58-80 Maspeth Ave., Maspeth, NY 11378

503d Engr. LP Co., 2d Pltn. (Rhinelander, April-May 1945)—Seeking Lt. James Collins (Okla.), Capt. Magill (Wash.), Bernard Winters (La.), Malecki, Raymond Schmarge, Mattot, Anthony Kibek, Guess, 1st Sgt. Hennessey & Roberts (all from N.Y.)—Stanley J. Marzalek, Rt. 2 Box 596, Walhalla, SC 29691

128th Evac. Hosp. (Africa, Germany, Normandy)—Seeking anyone in unit who remembers me.—Phil Zlataritz, 2802 W 36th St., Chicago, IL 60632

Camp Roberts, Calif. (1950-51)—Seeking anyone I worked with on switchboard and remembers me injuring my knee from a fall from a pick up truck —Reta Winslow Wixom, 2516 Mt. Zion Ave., Janesville, WI 53545

CLAIMS

54th Evac. Hosp. & 544th EB & SR, Co. B (New Guinea, 1944)—Seeking anyone in units to verify treatment for heart condition, hypertension, dingo fever and malaria.—Donald Edwin Simpson, 11115 Mandarin St., Boca Raton, FL 33433.

3d Inf. Div., 39th FA Bn., Svc. Btry. (Italy, Anzio, WW II)—Seeking Benjamin Krieter and Edward Madamba.—Leonard S. Sidock, 5709 Dugan Ave., La Mesa, CA 92041.

856th Ord. Det. (OED) (Germany, June 1961-Dec. 1964)—Seeking Capt. T.D. Smith, M/Sgt. Jessie G. Springer, SP5 John Tayman, SP6s John Johnson, Golden, William Russell and Carl Vogel.—Kenneth Allen Jacobson, c/o Todd County Veterans Service Officer, Court House Annex, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

6th Army, 177th Ord. Depot Co. (Leyte, Nov. 14, 1944-Dec. 1945)—Seeking Capt. R. Roy, Lt. Gamble, P. Dickey, G. George, Sgts. H. Lackey and S. Fears, Sgt. Maj.—Barney Pullinger, 400 Fairview Ave. # 4D, Ft. Lee, NJ 07024.

631st FA, Btry. B (Sicily, Italy)—Seeking members of unit knowing about hearing loss, esp. Capt. Jacob Burner, Paul Mangin, Capt. McKissick.—Kermit Turner, POB 217, Grove, OK 74344.

724th Ord. Bn. (Korea, Japan, 1952-54)—Seeking John Frankhauser (N.J.) and Ray Salisbury (N.Y.), others who recall my medical problems or exposure to chemical agents at Aberdeen in 1952.—Sam Terrazzino, 18 Oak Hill Rd., Needham, MA 02192.

41st Div., 218th FA, Btry. H (Hiroshima, 1945)—Seeking anyone who was in unit which went in after the bomb drop.—Calrence Stull, 1700 Co. Rd. 995, Rt. 6, Ashland, OH 44805.

USS 30th Sig. Const. Bn. (North Africa, Italy, 1943-44)—Seeking Walagoski, Cahill, anyone else who remembers me falling in ravine near Florence.—Richard Odem, 552 W Hazel St., Orlando, FL 32804

196th Lt. Inf. Bde., 17th Cav., F Trp. (LZ Baldy)—Seeking SFC Sweeten, others who remember me being at the hospital at Chu Lai with my knees.

Americal Div., 18th Arty & HQ, 3d Bn., Btry. A—Seeking anyone in unit who remembers my personal problems, esp. Larry Smith of Tulsa, Okla., Robert King of Kentucky, Larry Smith of Cleveland, and Dan (Tank) MacGraw of Chattanooga.—Charles H (Mouse) Gibbons, POB 732, Oilton, OK 74052

24th Div., 724th Ord. (M) Co. & 5th RCT (Death Valley, Korea, April 25, 1951)—Seeking anyone who remembers incident in which the 724th assisted members of the 5th RCT.—John Venezia, 9 Valley View Dr., Rockaway, NJ 07866.

97th Div., 389th FA, Btry. C (March 4-June 24, 1945, Central Europe)—Seeking anyone in 4th platoon.—James T. Clendenin, 225 E Oak, Crowley, LA 70526.

NAVY

Bethesda, Md. (1952) & Yokosuka, Japan (1954)—Seeking corpsman Michael McCartt.—Teddy R. Barnhart, 24 W Montgomery Ave., Ardmore, PA 19003

USS Cooper (DD695) (Leyte, PI, 1944)—Seeking Lts. Edwin Englbert, Frank Swint, LTJG John C. Mansell, Ensigns William J. Steed, Frank D. Campbell, John F. Webster and other survivors of Ormoc Bay.—Gene Bickers, 128 Piney Bend, Portage, IN 46368.

USS Skylark (AM163) (March 1945)—Seeking any survivors of sinking.—Lorne Alexander, Rt. 1 Box 84, Sutherland, IA 51058.

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57th Bomb. Wing. (WW II)—13, Lionville, Pa.—Harry George, Woodmont North Apts., C-20, Downingtown, PA 19335

May

7th AF, 7th Weather Sqdn. (WW II)—9-12, San Francisco—Lester Gaynor, 152 Burgess Ave., Westwood, MA 02090

19th Bomb. Assn.—San Antonio—Conrad Marvel, 5357 E Zion Pl., Tulsa, OK 74115.

27th Ftr. Sqdn.-ADC/TAC—2-5, Dayton, —Clifford Laechelin, General Dynamics, Ste. 236, 333 W 1st Dr., Dayton, OH 45402.

325th Photo Wing (High Wycombe, 1944-45)—23-30, England—Hugh Scott, 3342 S Sandhill Rd., Ste. 9-100, Las Vegas, NV 89121.

June

79th Aldrome Sqdn. (WW II)—7-9, Memphis—Richard Wood, 1308 5th St., Earle, AR 72331.

391st Sig. Co. Avn.—9-13, Matteson, Ill.—Harold Gubitz, 2820 Wallace Dr., Flossmoor, IL 60422

ALL BRANCHES

May

Loyal Order Ruptured Ducks (WW II)—10—Frank Leposa, 1120 E 8th St., Tulsa, OK 74120.

Yangtze River Patrol Assn.—9-12, San Jose, Calif.—John Geyer, 1056 Bobolink Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23452

June

Lovell, Wyo., North Big Horn Basin (WW I, WW II, Korean and Vietnam Wars)—24-30—Bob Negro, POB 846, Lovell, WY 82431.

Perrin Field Army Air Base—29, Sherman, Texas—Chester Walker, 1515 W Monterey, Denison, TX 75020

ARMY

April

4th Armd. Div., 10th Armd. Inf., Co. A—25-27, Louisville—Joseph Kmetz, 718 Jane St., Plum, PA 15239

24th Inf. Div., 21st Inf. Rgt., Co. L (Korea, June 1950-June 1951)—12-15, Savannah, Ga.—Hugh Brown, 75 Jefferson Circle, Athens, GA 30601

May

2d Armd. Div.—29-June 2, Tampa, Fla.—Loren Guge, 8053 High Point Blvd., Brookville, FL 33512.

4th Inf. Div. Assn., Western Pa. & Ohio Chaps.—30-June 2, Greensburg, Pa.—James Hawkins, 71 Wenzell Pl., Pittsburgh, PA 15216.

18th AAA Grp., HQ—4, El Paso—Rad Dedmon, POB 280, Canutillo, TX 79835.

31st Div., 156th Inf. (WW II)—18, Lake Charles, La.—Dixie Weaver, 11 Broad St., Nocona, TX 76255

102d Inf. Div. Assn.—26-June 2, Dallas—Frank Alfiero, 211 Reynard Rd., Bridgewater, NJ 08807.

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104th Inf. Div., Dist. V (Ohio)—4-Johnstown, Pa.—Curran Hammond, 415 47th St. NW, Canton, OH 44709.

452d QM Laundry Unit—24-26, Grand Rapids, Mich.—Frank Johnson, 6500 N State Rd., Orleans, MI 48865.

456th AAA Bn.—31-June 1, Athens, Ga.—George Marshall, Jr., 402 Riverview Rd., Athens, GA 30606.

727th MP Bn., Persian Gulf Command—16-18, Philadelphia—Joe Miesler, 3126 Aramingo Ave., Philadelphia, PA 10134.

June

2d Inf. Div., 38th Inf., Co. K—20-23, Branson, Mo.—Coy Durham, 1407 W 12th St., Texarkana, TX 75501.

Society of the Third Inf. Div., Western Region—11-13, Sparks, Nev.—James Guay, 26243 Jesmond Dene Rd., Escondido, CA 92026.

6th Cav. Assn.—14-16—6th Cav. Veterans Assn., POB 2011, Ft. Ogelthorpe, GA 30742.

10th Armd., 132d Rd., Co. B—14-16, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho—Norman Donart, E 3335 Harrison, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814.

28th Div.—21-23, Danvers, Mass.—Donald Abbott, 19 Aberdeen Ave., Peabody, MA 01960.

27th Inf. Div., 249th FA Bn.—28-30—Louis Turilli, 4608 11th Ave. D, Moline, IL 61265.

83d Inf. Div., 331st Inf., Co. I—Union, S.C.—Paul Lawson, Rt. 2, Union, SC 29379.

108th Cav.—28-29, Champaign, Ill.—Edward Hess, 1409 N Champaign, IL 61820.

135th Med. Rgt. (WW II)—29-30, Appleton, Wis.—Vance Yost, 1115 Waugoo Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54901.

38th Inf. Div., 149th Inf. Rgt., 149th Assn.—7-9, Louisville—Marion Willaims, 2005 Redleaf Dr., Louisville, KY 40222.

106th Gen. Hosp. (England, France, WW II)—6-9, Poconos, Pa.—Peter Cavalluzzi, 423 Grand St., Brooklyn, NY 11211.

299th Combat Engr. Bn. (WW II)—7-9, Syracuse—Don Miller, 808 Placek Dr., Johnson City, NY 13790.

461st AAA Bn., Btry. B—20-22, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho—Don Castellaw, 804 East E St., Moscow, ID 83843.

552d Engr. Hvy. Ponton Assn.—21-22, Gettysburg, Pa.—Warren Snyder, 625 N 19th St., Allentown, PA 18104.

634th TD Bn., Co. A—22-23, Oklahoma City—C.J. Pochobradsky, 2419 Victoria Dr. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.

724th ROB (WW II)—5-9, Gatlinburg, Tenn.—James Willaims, 555 Lakehurst Rd., Apt. 6, Brown Mills, NJ 08015.

785th Tank Bn.—28-30, Baton Rouge—Oliver Lindig, 2785 Yorktown Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808.

957th FA Bn.—28-30, Grand Forks, N.D.—George Fowler, POB 2342, Fargo, ND 58108-2342.

1289th Corps of Engr.—29-30, Fredericksburg, Texas—Lee Jung, 217 Timberridge Dr., Fredericksburg, TX 78624.

Alamo Scouts Assn.—Ann Arbor, Mich.—R.S. Sumner, 4101 Watrous Ave., Tampa, FL 33629.

Americal Div. FA—19-21, Leominster, Mass.—E.R. Horton, Rt. 1 Box 854, Timberlake, NC 27853.

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For almost 100 years, the Statue of Liberty has held her lamp aloft proudly, the blazing symbol of freedom and opportunity to oppressed people everywhere... and a welcoming beacon of hope to the countless millions who found their way to America—and helped make our nation great!

Historic Solid 14K Gold Tribute, Only \$10

Now, in preparation for the 100th Anniversary of the Statue of Liberty on July 4, 1986, the Statue is being strengthened and restored... so that the Lamp of Freedom can burn on for hundreds of years longer! And, in tribute to this great effort, U.S. & Overseas Coin Exchange has created a stunning solid 14K Goldpiece, die-struck in solid 14-karat gold, **double-dated** 1886-1986. Each solid 14K Goldpiece will be permanently mounted in a special Collector's Folio suitable for storage or display.

If you act within the next 30 days, we will send you this historic solid 14-karat gold 9mm goldpiece for only \$10. And, you can take advantage of sizable discounts if you order in

quantity to put away as keepsake heirlooms, or to use now as distinctive gifts for any special occasion.

A Strictly Limited Edition

The 100th Anniversary Statue of Liberty Commemorative Goldpiece will be issued in a strictly limited edition—die-struck on planchets of solid 14-karat gold **only** until July 3, 1986, after which time the dies will be destroyed and the edition permanently closed.

Furthermore, because of constantly changing gold prices on the world bullion markets, we can only guarantee our \$10 offering price for the next 30 days. To take advantage of this important collector's opportunity, you must act promptly. Two Statue of Liberty Goldpieces, just \$18; three for \$25; five for \$35; ten for just \$60; twenty for just \$100. Money-back if not delighted, of course.

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FREE

WITH EVERY ORDER! Order now, and we will include a fascinating history of the Statue of Liberty and its original construction by the people of France as a gift to America, plus a Certificate of Authenticity attesting to the gold content of each solid 14-karat gold Statue of Liberty goldpiece.

U.S. & Overseas Coin Exchange, Dept. SL-85
89 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10003

Please send me the solid 14K Gold Statue of Liberty 100th Anniversary Goldpiece(s) indicated below on your money-back guarantee of satisfaction (except postage and handling, of course):

- ☐ ONE Statue of Liberty Goldpiece at \$10 plus \$1.75 postage, handling & insurance.
- ☐ TWO, only \$18 plus \$2 postage & handling.
- ☐ THREE, only \$25 plus \$2.25 postage & handling.
- ☐ FIVE, only \$35 postpaid (YOU SAVE \$23.75!)
- ☐ TEN, only \$60 postpaid (YOU SAVE \$57.50!)
- ☐ TWENTY, only \$100 postpaid (YOU SAVE \$135.00!)

Amount enclosed \$ _____ (New York residents add sales tax)

CHARGE IT: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard Expires _____

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CREDIT CARD HOLDERS CALL TOLL FREE

1-800-962-1296 Mon.-Fri. 9AM to 8PM EST.

Sat.-Sun. 10AM to 4PM EST



REUNIONS

Armored Forces Radio Nationwide Emergency Team—7-9, Ft. Knox, Ky.—Harry Thomson, W2PJH, 348 Jefferson Ave., Apt. 15, Canandaigua, NY 11424.

MARINE CORPS

May

2d Am. Trac. Bn. (WW II)—2-5, El Paso, Texas—R.D. Sommerville, Star Rt. Box 198, Anthony, NM 88021.

1st Marine Div., 7th Rgt., Weapons Co.—5-8, Memphis—Joe Beckum, 1637 Kirkwood Dr., Memphis, TN 38116.

7th Svc. Rgt. (WW II)—14-16, San Francisco—Glen Alday, 14360 Wing Rd., Belleville, MI 49021.

NAVY

April

USS LST 345—17-19, Norfolk, Va.—Robert White, Rt. 2 Box 12, Siler City, NC 27344.

May

101st NCB—17-19, Omaha—Calvin Belt, 4801 Stratford Rd., Evansville, IN 47710.

USS Davis—25-23—William Reimer, 2104 Hawthorne Park Dr., Janesville, WI 53545.

USS Gen. Butler (AP113)—17-19, Andover, Mass.—A.J. Messina, 61 Redfern Rd., Eatintown, NJ 07724.

USS Hyperion (AK107)—2-4, Eufala, Okla.—Wayne Parnell, 102 Arch, Warren, AR

USS Sollen (APA3)—31-June 2, San Diego—Tom Hoffman, 3544 Ave. H, Yucaipa, CA 92399.

USS Seiver (APA233)—3-4, Charleston, S.C.—J.H. Kesterson, 106 Shaftesbury, Summerville, SC 29483.

USS Tangler (AV8)—30-June 1, Savannah—Jack Shoemaker, 4 Leeds Gate Rd., Savannah, GA 31406.

June

4th NCB—6-9, Reno—Louis D'Ercole, 520 Cranleigh Dr., Reno, NV 89512.

79th NCB—21-23, Los Gatos, Calif.—Joanne Lewis, 20410 Via Santa Teresa, San Jose, CA 95120.

Hurricane Hunters (VPB-114, VPW-3, VPM-3, VPHL-3, VJ-2 & VW-4)—21-22, Pensacola, Fla.—Hurricane Hunters, Inc., 2818 Cedarcrest Dr., Orange Park, FL 32073.

USS Alaska (CB1)—13-15, Buffalo—Charles St. George, 25 Leon Pl., Fredonia, NY 14063.

USS Fanshaw Bay (CVE70)—7-9, Kansas City, Mo.—Archie Crabtree, Melvin Peterson, 42 N 2d St., Allegany, NY 14706.

USS Hanna (DE449)—7-9, Rochester, N.Y.—Thomas Spiegel, 60 Cynthia Lane, Rochester, NY 14621.

USS Kershaw (APA176)—New York—Ralph Pruden, 630 5th Ave., Ste. 1853, New York, NY 10020-10111.

USS Mount Vernon (AP22)—Las Vegas—George Ramos, 536 4th St., Imperial Beach, CA 92032.

USS Stanly (DD478)—Taylor, Mich.—Leo Johnson, 3814 Syckelmoore Ave., Trenton, MI 48183.

USS Yew (YN32)—15-16, Bristol, Pa.—C.D. Theobald, Rt. 1 Box 158, Rock Hall, MD 21661.

Knowledge

A man was driving along a highway when he was stopped by a traffic cop. "You were speeding," said the policeman politely. "I will have to give you a ticket."

"But I wasn't speeding," the man protested. "I was only doing 40."

"I'm sorry, sir," said the policeman, "But you were doing 50 in a 40-mile zone."

"Now look here," said the man belligerently, "I know I was only doing 40."

The argument continued briefly until the man's wife interrupted. "You're wasting your breath, officer," she said. "You can't argue with my husband when he's been drinking. I ought to know."

—Quote

Reader

Sheila and her nasty older brother were at a carnival. "I can't decide," her brother said. "Should I go to the mind reader or the palm reader?"

"Skip the mind reader," Sheila said. "Go to the palm reader."

"Why?" he asked.

"Because you definitely have a palm."

—Quote

Suicidal

A new patient confided to the psychiatrist, "I'd better tell you before we begin — I suffer from marked suicidal tendencies."

"Very interesting," nodded the psychiatrist, with his best professional nod of the head. "Under the circumstances then, I'm quite sure you wouldn't mind paying the bill in advance."

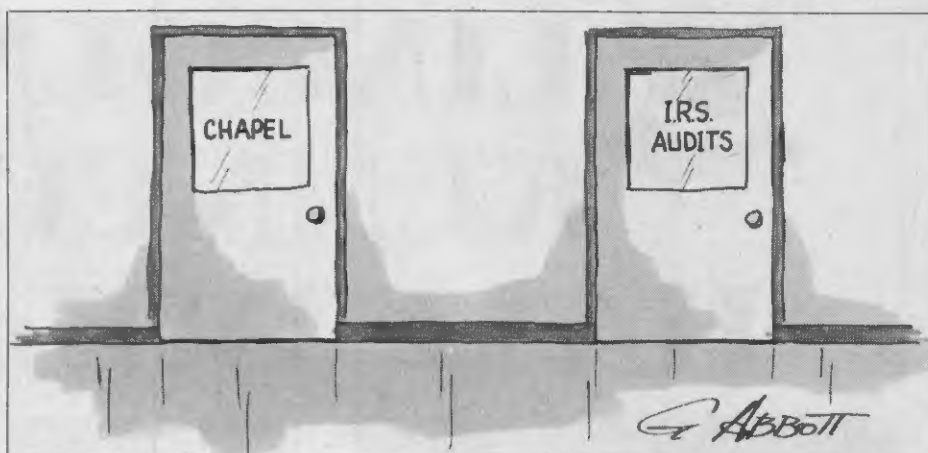
—Quote

A Real Howler

Two friends were talking about the local boy who made good as a country singer. "They tell me," said the first man, "that his singing helped sell thousands of radios."

"I wouldn't doubt it," said the second man. "It made me sell mine!"

—Quote



Asp No Questions, Get No Lies

Young Wilbert came home from school and announced to his mother, "I got two free ice cream cones this afternoon."

"How?" asked his mother. "I certainly hope you didn't swipe them."

"Oh, I wouldn't do that," Wilbert assured her. "I just took one cone in my right hand, took the other in my left hand, and told the lady behind the counter, 'Will you please get my money from my pocket, and be careful not to hurt my pet snake?'"

—Quote

That'll Be \$275.53

An old man who didn't like any of his relatives died and his possessions were divided among the family. A nephew was awarded the 1975 Chevy which seemed to have an inordinate number of rattles and squeaks. The nephew managed to find the cause of all the irritating sounds—except one. The mysterious rattle appeared to come from a rear window which was finally taken apart and probed. There, hanging by a string, was an empty iodine bottle with a note in the old man's handwriting, "I never thought you'd find this one."

—Quote



"A HURRICANE OF FIREPOWER..."



Optional walnut case may be wall mounted or displayed flat.